

# THE NOR-WEST FARMER.

Vol. 19; No. 24.  
Whole No. 252.

THE NOR-WEST FARMER, DECEMBER 20, 1900.

\$1 a Year, in advance.

## The Nor'-West Farmer's New Home.

THE close of the nineteenth century, and the incoming of the twentieth, will pass into the history of The Nor'-West Farmer as an event significant not only as marking the forward march of time, but as opening up to this journal a grand new era, pregnant with all the possibilities with which that magic word "progress" is latent.

On this page we present to our readers an engraving of the splendid new block which the publishers, The Stovel Co., have erected during the past season, and which will, we believe, be a home worthy of the publication. The building, as will be seen, is a splendid solid brick structure, five storeys high, and presents an imposing appearance. It covers 100x66 feet, and has about an acre of floor space; is fitted with all the very latest and best approved appointments, such as electrical power, steam heating throughout, lavatories, elevator, and ample provision for lighting. It is making no boast to say that for size, accommodation and conveniences this block far overtops any other owned or occupied by any other printing firm in Western Canada—and, indeed, has but very few, if any, rivals in the east.

In connection with the production of The Farmer, it is worthy of note that the entire work, from the taking of the most of the photographs and editing of the text matter, onward through all the multiplied and intricate processes with which modern advanced newspaper-making is fraught, is performed by our own staff of employees. When we state that this issue represents our own work in editorial production, photography, half-tone engraving, stereotyping and electrotyping, in art designing, lithography, type composition, and letter press, we know that only those intimate with the printing craft will appreciate the diversity of cunning which is called into play. Our readers will perhaps understand more thoroughly what is implied in such a statement when we say that there is not another single publishing firm in the Dominion of Canada to-day which has within itself the agencies required to give birth to this number of The Nor'-West Farmer. Save for the making of the paper and the wire used in binding, the work of production was all performed in the building pictured on this page.

When the farmers of this great youthful land remember that all these combined forces are employed, and that these hurrying presses murmur with the task of bringing to them the brightest and best from the realm of agricultural knowledge, is it not, we ask, a circumstance foreshadowing weal for the future of their chosen calling?

At this point in the existence of The Farmer, it may be of considerable interest

to glance back over the history which we have been making since the inception of this journal in 1882. Our oldest subscribers will know that in that year The Farmer was founded by Mr. Lud. K. Cameron, now Queen's Printer, Toronto. It was started as a 16-page monthly. From that time forward until the purchase in November, 1895, by the present publishers, its path was a somewhat devious one. Since then the progress made has been very marked and rapid, new improvements and enlargements being constant, until to-day our many thousands of readers look with pride upon The Farmer as a production which reflects credit upon this fair West.

But why should not Western Canada have the very best? With acres stretching themselves up into the dizzy millions, with sons and daughters outclassed in no part of the earth for intelligence and progressiveness, with possibilities for wealth which, if unfolded, would read like a



The Nor'-West Farmer's New Home.

dream, surely there is no just reason why our own West should not in the future have the best farm paper in America.

With the next issue, The Nor'-West Farmer will be increased in size, and the pages will be four columns in width instead of three, as at present.

In presenting this number, we must ask our subscribers to overlook the slight delay in issuing, which we have found unavoidable. The reasons are easily explained. The building contractors, who had agreed to have the new premises completed by October 1st, failed in accomplishing their work by that date, and the rush of work with which we have been fighting for the past few weeks has prevented our full occupancy of the building, and we have been consequently handicapped.

In conclusion, we wish to thank the thousands of friends and subscribers who have stood by us in the past, and we trust that in the future, even more than heretofore, we will merit a continuance of their support.

May it be even so.

## The Christmas Bells.

By Jas. Morton, Two Creeks, Man.

In cadenced rhyme over dreamland snow,  
Like echoed tones of the long ago,  
In solemn and sweet and joyful swells,  
Comes the tuneful voice of the Christmas bells.

Like friendly tongues they seem to say:  
"We knew thee when in boyhood gay,  
You heard us ring from the old church tower  
On Christmas eve and the midnight hour."

That tower still stands in its ivy green,  
And below the homes of the dead are seen,  
Sheathed in their shining shrouds of snow,  
And chased by the moonlight's silver glow.

The years have passed and we have rung  
When some have wept and some have sung—  
Merrily tinkling when hearts were wedded,  
Or tolling slow when in earth imbedded.

The withering forms of tollworn age,  
Tired of their painful pilgrimage,  
The peaceful sleep of death have hlest  
When hopefully they sank to rest.

Like stars among the ripened corn,  
The bright flowers bloomed in life's gay morn—  
In all the pride of youth displayed,

We mourned them deep and lowly laid.

'Dust to dust' they mingle now,  
The tollworn hand and thoughtful brow,  
Safe from hate and free from rage,  
Nor ills can harm nor time can age.

The years roll by and others come  
To call the wandering pilgrims home,  
And still we ring with cheery chime  
To greet the glad some Christmas time."

## "Good Will to Men."

As this issue of The Nor'-West Farmer is the last one, not only in this year, but in the century, we feel that too full an expression of cheer and well-wishing would be impossible. From its front cover The Farmer hails its thousands of fellow voyagers on the sea of life with "A Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year." The grand old words! What memories they

awaken! How they have been rung out through the centuries, making the sons of men to be glad and rejoice together! May they not slip from our lips thoughtlessly, but, coming from our hearts, be laden with fraternal impulse and good-fellowship.

How our hearts warm up to the winsome little Miss looking out through the tattered old hat. What unvoiced messages does such a face bring to us? Purity, gentleness, hope, tractability, charity which "thinketh no evil," and the certain promise of growth—we see them all here. Happy it were if we make these qualities our own, as we, too, gaze through the ruins of this old century out upon the vast untried possibilities of the new.

W. G. Jessup, Spy Hill, Assa., Dec. 19, 1900: "The Nor'-West Farmer is the best paper on farm topics I have the pleasure to read."

James Wilson, Grand View Ranch, Innisfail, Alta., Dec. 18, 1900:—"Your Nor'-West Farmer is a very welcome periodical, and such should be in the home of every rancher or farmer in this western country."

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CARDS under this head inserted at the rate of \$1.50 per line per year. No card accepted under two lines, nor for less than six months.

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**JAMES GLENNIE**, Longburn, Man. Importer and breeder of Holstein-Friesian Cattle. Bull calves of the famous Teake strain for sale. Write for prices. Box 95.

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**JOHN TURNER**, "Bonny Brae Farm," breeder of Polled Angus Cattle. Young stock of both sexes for sale. Address, John Turner, Carroll, Man.

**HY. BYERS**, Macgregor, Man., breeder of Jersey Cattle. Largest herd in the West, headed by Rover Pegis, No. 41020. Young stock for sale.

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**J. VAN VEEN**, breeder of Galloway and Hereford Cattle and Shropshire Sheep, Lake View Ranch, File Hills, Port Qu'Appelle, Assa. 1588

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**T. R. TODD**, Hillview, Man. Shorthorn Cattle and Oxford Sheep. Young stock for sale.

**W. N. CROWELL**, Napinka, Man., breeder of Shorthorns & Berkshires. Young stock for sale

**D. ALLISON**, Stron-a Stock Farm, Roland, Man. Shorthorn Cattle and Berkshire Swine.

**JOSEPH TAYLOR**, Elgin, Manitoba, breeder of Shorthorn Cattle. Young stock for sale.

**W. V. EDWARDS**, Souris, Man. Breeder of Jerseys. Herd bull and bull calves for sale.

**JAMES WILSON**, Innisfail, Alta., breeder of Shorthorns. Young stock for sale.

**ALEX. WOOD**, Souris, Man., Breeder of Oxford Down Sheep.

## WANT, SALE OR EXCHANGE

Under this heading will be inserted advertisements of farm properties, farm machinery, etc., for sale and exchange, farm help wanted, articles wanted and other lines of miscellaneous advertising.

TERMS.—One cent per word each insertion, payable strictly in advance, name and address to be included in the count. No advertisement will be taken for less than 25 cents.

**Want on Shares**—A 1 Stallion to stand in Virden. For particulars write W. Crothers, Pipestone, Man. 20 25.

**Seed Wheat**—Three hundred bushels of Preston wheat for sale. Write Jeremiah Coffey, Dalesboro, Assa. 21-26

**Wanted**—to buy for Cash, small farm with buildings, in Manitoba, with hay, wood and good water. State price and particulars. F. Wright, Carleton Place, Assa. 24

**Seed Potatoes by Mail**—Early Vaughan variety, heavy yielders, fine tubers 6 cents per lb., postage paid. Send quickly, only 40 bn-hels left. Brandon Beddome, Box 98, Minnedosa, Man. 24

Mr. A. Hughes, druggist, Medicine Hat, reports a fierce battle between two stallions on the Shannon Ranch, near that town. A heavy Clyde stallion fiercely attacked a valuable blood horse in the stable at night, and when found next morning was one mass of bites, from his withers to his ears, the mane being deeply bitten into the flesh. Although Mr. Shannon was strongly advised to shoot the animal, on Mr. Hughes' recommendation decided to try what Dr. Warnock's Ulcerkure would do. In less than two weeks the wounds were completely healed. If you have not used Ulcerkure, send 3c. stamp for free sample bottle to

Western Veterinary Co., Box 478, Winnipeg.

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HEREFORDS

Champion Herd  
Of Western Canada.

Best Beef Cattle in the World.  
STURDY YOUNG BULLS for sale. Also cows and heifers. Nearly 100 head to select from. A few choice LIGHT BRAHMA Cockerels for sale.



J. E. Marples, DELEAU, Manitoba.

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For sale, 40 Ram lambs and 7 shearlings. As I am short of room, will also sell about 50 breeding Ewes of A1 quality, age from 1 to 4 shears, all good, sound and strong sheep. 200 to choose from. Prices right. See them, or apply  
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Having a large connection amongst many of the foremost breeders in Great Britain, I guarantee to supply pure bred Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs of any British breeds for exhibition or breeding purposes on the most favorable terms. Satisfaction guaranteed. Prices on application. P.O. Box 483

When writing advertisers, please mention The Nor-West Farmer.



The Shorthorn Herd of Jos. Lawrence, Clearwater, Man.

## The Past Season in Northern Alberta.

By A. McLay, Edmonton, Alta.



A. McLay.

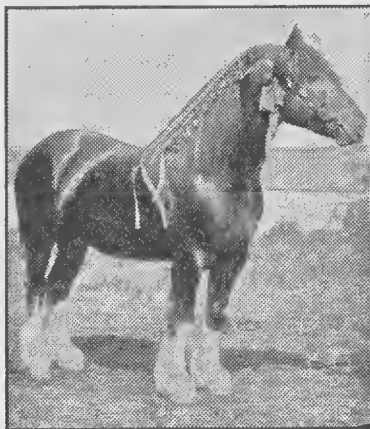
The past season has been an unfavorable one for the farmers of the Edmonton district. The spring opened well with fine warm weather, and, there being plenty of moisture in the soil, the seed germinated early and came up evenly, making a fine showing. Spring rains fell freely and, with plenty of moisture and bright sunshine, the crop promised well. Splendid growing continued throughout the summer; roots matured rapidly, hay was an abundant crop, and even on the up-land mowers were run. Grain grew to a great length. Unfortunately the rainfall continued too long. The weather that was ideal for growing was not so good for ripening and harvesting. The continued rains delayed the ripening, and harvesting was in consequence held back.

From the same cause the securing of the hay crop was also much delayed. Sloughs which in previous years had yielded well were this year lakes, in which geese swam and ducks sported. Hay cut on highland could not be stacked on account of unfavorable weather, which did not give it a chance to dry. For this reason, though the season was so favorable to growing, there was a shortage in the amount secured, causing a consequent increase of price. The natural grass, which in previous years sold for \$5 a ton has this fall brought \$10, and in some cases as high as \$12.

To cap the climax, snow fell on the 25th of August. The weather was not cold neither was the snowfall heavy, but the great rankness of the grain aided in its own downfall, in more senses than one. With the weight of the snow the grain became lodged and later flattened down completely. A proper ripening process was thereby prevented, and, later, when the weather cleared sufficiently to permit of harvesting, cutting was tedious and slow, as the binder could only be run one way

and brought back empty. A full cut could not be taken in many cases, which added to the slowness of the work. Oats ripening earlier, was not injured to as great an extent as the wheat. Phenomenal crops would have been harvested had it not been for the snow. Though this undesired visitation made the yield less per acre, the farmers expect to realize better prices which it is hoped will help to average things up nearly to the basis of last year.

Threshing is now in full swing, and some heavy yields are reported. Glorious weather has prevailed for the past two months and this has done much to improve the situation. Threshers' returns show that the



(Life Photograph.)

Clydesdale Stallion, Pilgrim, Imp., 7020.

First Prize aged and Sweepstakes Stallion, any age, at Winnipeg Industrial, 1900. The property of J. A. S. Macmillan, Brandon, Man.

sample of wheat is not so good as last year. Oats are fairly good, but somewhat discolored in some cases, due to the rain and snow. Roots of all kinds, and all vegetables, were an excellent crop.

Cattle are not in as good condition this fall as last year, but good prices are being realized, and stockmen are improving their herds by importing better bred stockers. The bulls and boars shipped in by the C. P. R. have been much appreciated in the various districts by the settlers. Horses, also, are in good demand, and bring better prices than they have for the past six

years. For hogs there is also a lively demand, and good prices are being paid. Large numbers will be raised on account of the great quantity of damaged wheat.

In other lines of farm produce higher prices have been paid this year for butter and eggs than ever before. Poultry also finds a ready market. There is a steady and growing demand in the Kootenay for all our produce, and farmers' wives are smiling since the new era dawned, and the Liberal government was sustained. Farmers have had harder work to secure their grain than was ever known here before, but, nevertheless, we have plenty of food for man and beast, and "hearts for any fate."

Immigration this year has surpassed that of any other season, and the coming summer will be better still. The best advertisement the district can have is the settlers who are already here. Our American cousins, keen to appreciate and take advantage of a "good thing," have flocked in by the carload, and there are more to follow.

Our great need is railway competition, and this we hope to have in the near future from the Canadian Northern, which is now heading for us.

In looking over the past season, with all its drawbacks and disappointments, we still have reason to be very thankful for we have plenty to eat for both man and beast, and we are still firm in our belief that for mixed farming the Edmonton district is, like the boiled egg, "hard to beat."

## An Invitation—By Ourselves.

Among the things which are counted by The Nor'-West Farmer in its list of pleasures is the privilege of entertaining its friends and readers in its own premises. Now that we have our new home completed, however, that pleasure will be heightened, and, we trust, even more frequent.

But (and we may say it humbly) the delight is not ours only. To those possessed of ordinary curiosity and love for the intricacies of the mechanical arts, a visit through the various departments of an institution such as this is a small world of revelation.

Let our subscribers all remember that whenever they are in Winnipeg they have a standing invitation to drop in and see us. Our building fronts on McDermot ave. and Arthur and King streets, and is just two blocks west of the post office. If you drop in, ask to be shown through and we will do our best to help you to spend a pleasant and profitable half-hour.



In Sight of Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.

## CAIRNBROGIE'S Great Stud



GRAHAM BROS., - Claremont, Ont.,

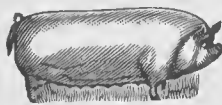
Breeders and Importers of

CLYDESDALE & HACKNEY HORSES

Handling only the best of their respective breeds, we have now on hand more good young Stallions and Mares than ever before, home bred and imported, of choicest breeding, of ample size, combined with the very best quality and action. Prices in keeping with the quality of our offerings.

Claremont is 25 miles east of Toronto on the C. P. R. Farm one mile from station. Correspondence and an examination of our stock solicited.

### OAK GROVE FARM



SHORTHORNS,  
YORKSHIRES,  
WHITE P. ROCKS  
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1 Young Bull sired by Knuckle Duster (imp.)  
1 Young Bull, sired by Lord Lossie 22nd. Number of choice heifers. Fine lot of young boars and sows. White P. Rock Cockerels.

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### SHORTHORNS.

Number of young Bulls and a few good Cows in calf for sale. Barons Pride (imp.) first in his class at Winnipeg, 1899, Stock Bull.

J. H. KINNEAR & SON, Souris, Man.

### LARGE ENGLISH BERKSHIRES.

Four Boars of February litters at \$7.00 each, second litters now coming will be sold at \$5.00 each. First come, first served. Two first prize Boars at head of herd. Pairs not akin.

JOSEPH LAIDLER, Neepawa.

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### — FOR SALE AT — FOREST HOME FARM

A grand lot of young

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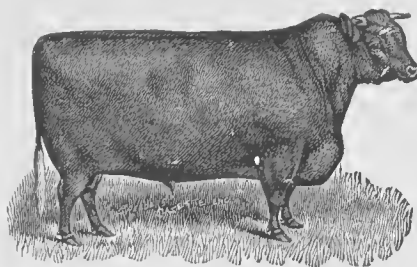


among them some crack Show animals, winners at both Winnipeg and Braudon, and others that can win. A few Yorkshire Pigs, both sex, and a beautiful lot of B. P. Rock cockerels. The first to order gets the choice.

ANDREW GRAHAM,

Roland, NPR, Carman, CPR. Pomeroy P.O., Man

When writing advertisers, mention The Farmer.



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MINA, MISSIE, ROSEBUD, WIMPLE, DUCHESS  
OF GLOSTER, JEALOUSY

And other well known popular Scotch tribes.

"Prince Alpine" (imp.) got by "Emancipator" (6544) at the head of the herd, assisted by "Crown Jewel 16th, first prize winner at Toronto, '97-'98.

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FOR SALE AT MODERATE PRICES.

7 miles north of Winnipeg.  
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## Prairie Home Stock Farm.

SHORTHORN & AYRSHIRE CATTLE.

Yorkshires, Berkshires, Shropshires.

### JANUARY OFFERING

2 Ayrshire Bulls

25 Shearling & Ram Lambs

80 Fall Pigs all littered since summer fairs

PIGS ALL AGES—BOTH BREEDS.

Shorthorn herd headed by "Judge," 23419, and imported "Jubilee," 28858. The females are rich in the blood of the most famous families. Ayrshire herd headed by "Surprise of Burnside." Females of the highest quality from the best strains. Yorkshire herd headed by "Oak Lodge Mighty 7th," and a recent importation of the approved bacon type, with a large herd of females of the choicest breeding. Berkshire herd headed by "Nonpareil," with 30 breeding sows of faultless conformation and superior breeding. Farm one mile from the station. Visitors welcome.

THOS GREENWAY, Proprietor.

JAS. YULE, Mauager, CRYSTAL CITY.

### Six Shorthorn Bulls

FOR SALE.

One is three years old, the others are from one year to eight months. These bulls are large for their age, good beef color and blood, first-class bulls. Write quick.

Wm. STOTHERS, Graburn, Assa.

### EIGHT SHORTHORN BULLS.

Sired by Aberdeen 2nd, from 8 months to 18 months old, for sale. My stock bull Aberdeen is also for sale, as I have kept him as long as is prudent, and any one getting him will make no mistake as his stock will prove. Write for particulars.

Wm CHALMERS, Hayfield, Man.

### Lakeside Stock Farm.

Large English  
BERKSHIRE SWINE  
and  
SHORTHORN CATTLE.

Stock of all ages for sale. Orders booked for spring litters from prize winners. Satisfaction guaranteed. Correspondence solicited.

JAMES M. EWENS, Minnedosa P.O., Man.

BUNDLODY STOCK FARM



Shorthorns FOR SALE.

1 Roan Bull, 20 mos. old;  
1 dark red bull calf, 9 mos. old;  
2 young cows; and 3 young heifers.

All registered in the D.H.B. Will sell cheap. First come, first served.  
McGill Bros., Carroll, Man.

### Choice Shorthorns.

FOUR BULL CALVES, 6 months old, sired by Trout Creek Hero.

COWS and HEIFERS, served by Trout Creek Hero.

This stock is of the thrifty, low-set, blocky kind, and in the right condition to do well.  
JOHN RAMSAY, - Priddis, Alta.

When writing advertisers, please mention the Nor'-West Farmer.

### GOLD MEDAL HOME BRED SHORTHORN HERD



Young Bulls and Heifers for sale sired by Nobleman (imported), Stanley 6th, and Tops, man, champion bull at Winnipeg, Toronto, London and Ottawa in 1899.

This herd also won the Open Herd Prize against all comers and first for bull and two of his get. This is the Herd to buy from.

Berkshires and Yorkshires.

J. G. BARRON Carberry, Man.

### PEDIGREED COLLIE DOGS

COLLIE dog pups, sired by Merlin, reserve puppy at Chicago in 1896.

FOX TERRIERS sired by Norfolk Bowles, brother of champion Victorious.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS and SILVER LACED WYANDOTTE COCKERELS.

W. J. LUMSDEN, - Hanlan, Man.

### Wm. G. STYLES, Rosser, Man.

Breeder of

Shorthorns, Yorkshires, Tamworths.

Young and aged stock of above breeds always on hand. Six splendid bull calves and young sows at reasonable rates. Parties met by appointment at Rosser.



A QUICK, SHARP CUT  
hurts much less than a bruise, crush or tear  
Done with the  
DEHORNING KEYSTONE KNIFE

is the safest. Quick, sharp cut. Cuts from four sides at once. Cannot crush bruise or tear. Most humane method of dehorning known. Took highest award World's Fair. Write for free circulars before buying.

Owned and Manufactured by R. H. McKENNA, V.S., Picton, Ont.  
The C. B. Rosier's Patent.





"Round up" Camp, Circle Ranch, near Lethbridge, Alta.

## Lessons in the School of Experience.

By Robert Forke, Pipestone, Man.

Spring is the time of hope, and there is a "perennial gladness in this season of the year." Who is there that does not feel pleased to hear the first cheery note of the meadow lark on a spring morning? And often the worker in the field enjoys the melody of some sweet-feathered singer pouring forth his song in pure gladness of heart. Each season brings its appointed task and compensating pleasure, and now, at the commencement of another winter, we can look forward to having more time for social intercourse, or quiet evenings in the company of good books and magazines. At this season, too, we may profitably consider some of the lessons taught in the school of experience during the past year.



Robt. Forke.

We had a light snowfall the previous winter, and but for the snow storm of October, there would have been barely enough moisture for germination. As it was, the land, in most cases, was in good condition

for seeding. In the west, however, we would have welcomed a day's rain any time. Seeding commenced about the 7th of April, with almost summer heat. High winds are not unusual in spring, but the soil being abnormally dry, dust storms were frequent, and a great deal of damage was done.

As the season wore on, and no rain fell, the advantage of good cultivation and deep seeding became more apparent. Wheat on new land came up very patchy, and where the ground was not properly prepared was a failure from the first. Very disheartening to many a farmer during the month of May and early June was the hot, dry winds blowing his land up in clouds of dust. A field in the morning might be nicely rowed in delicate green, in the evening brown, bare and arid looking. By the middle of June the outlook was serious, even the best fields were failing; summer fallowing was hard work, the land dry, and the heat extreme; pastures were bare and the prospects for hay almost nil; and grasshoppers were reported to be doing great damage in different parts of the province. By the way, I think the gulls were better instruments of destruction than the dozzers.

About the end of June rain fell abundantly, and in a few days the appearance of the country was changed. It was evident that the crop was going to be a short one, but there would be feed and seed, and something to pay expenses. Late oats benefited greatly and barley sown on blown summer fallow grew rapidly.

Harvest commenced about the 7th August; a good deal of damage was done at this time by hail. Harvesting was tedious work, rain fell frequently, and weeds in the stunted fields of wheat grew quick-

ly. After a dry growing season, and a wet harvest, our grain was also damaged to a considerable extent after cutting.

Most of the threshing is now done, and the yield of wheat is about eight bushels per acre. The price realized in the majority of cases is a little over 50c. Oats are a light crop, potatoes good. On the whole, not a good year, by any means, but compared with the prospect at one time, we have much to be thankful for.

Well, what are some of the lessons taught us by this unusual season? Nothing very new, after all.

First. Summer fallow, when well prepared, is the safest land for crop in all seasons, and without a rotation of crops the land should be summer fallowed every third year.

Second. Put the seed well down with a press drill.

Third. Cultivate the land with the harrows just before the grain is up, and go over it again when it is a few inches high with a light harrow or the weeder. To those who follow this method weeds have lost a good deal of their terror, and cultivation holds the moisture.

Fourth. After the land (especially light soil) has been cropped and summer fallowed for years, it is bound to lift with the wind. A sub-surface packer will help, for it is a good implement; but nothing less than grass root fibre will hold the soil. Brome grass seems to fill the bill. The seed has been expensive, but will soon be cheaper.

Fifth. Any farmer, with all his crop on one farm, ought to insure against hail. Before insuring, make sure of the "ins and outs" of the company you insure with. We have a good Municipal Hail Insurance Act on the provincial statutes, but it does

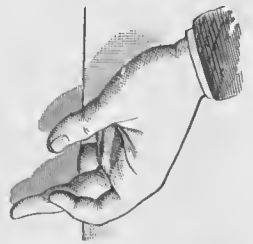


On the Farm of W. R. Sturgeon, Melita, Man.

# The Gold Standard Herd



If you want to be in the 20th Century style, **make your selection here.** If you want the big, juicy, meaty fellows, that feed easy and make money for you, **make your selections here.** If you want some of the best Berkshire blood obtainable on this continent, **make your selections here.** A few nice April, May and June Sows for sale, bred to the two grand prize-winning Boars "Duke of Clifford" and "Oxford Manitoba." I am also booking orders for spring pigs, sired by those boars and from the noted prize-winning sows "Charmer," "Nora," "Rosamond" and others of equally good breeding. If you are a lover of good stock, HERE'S MY HAND. LET'S SHAKE. Yours very truly, **J. A. MCGILL.**



## PLAINVIEW STOCK FARM



Is always able and ready to supply your wants in

**SHORTHORN BULLS and HEIFERS, COTSWOLD and LEICESTER RAMS and EWES, BERKSHIRE BOARS**

And Sows in farrow, Toulouse Geese and B. P. Rocks at bad crop prices. Write or call and see what I will do for the next 30 days to make room for young stock coming. Lyndhurst 4th, that great show Bull and Spicey Robin at the head of the Shorthorns, Fitzsimons B. leading the Cotswolds to the front, and Gallant Boy, Tippecanoe 2nd and Can't Be Beat heading the herd of Berkshires, has produced the best I have ever had and can do it again.

Come and see my stock, you will be welcome. No business, no harm. Will be met at station and returned there.

**F. W. BROWN, Proprietor,**  
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MAN.

## MAPLE GROVE FARM.

Portage la Prairie, Man.

**SHORTHORN CATTLE and LARGE ENGLISH BERKSHIRES.**

Stock of my breeding has taken honors at the Winnipeg and Portage Fairs this year. I have a splendid pair of young bulls, and swine of both sex, for sale.

**J. A. FRASER, Proprietor.**

## ISLAND PARK HEREFORDS

**J. A. CHAPMAN, Beresford, Man.**

Importer and breeder. Young and aged stock of both sexes for sale.

Lord Ingleside 6th, herd bull, secured 1st prize and Sweepstakes at Winnipeg and Brandon Fairs, 1900.

## R. McLENNAN, Moropano P.O., Man.

Lakeside Stock Farm.

### SHORTHORNS FOR SALE

Females bred, and with calves at foot. Six young Bulls, growthy and full of quality. All by the imported bull

**SIR COLIN CAMPBELL.**

## ROSEBANK FARM

**For Sale** Victoria's Montrose, the well known Polled Angus bull, first at Winnipeg and Brandon. He also took the silver medal and diploma and herd prize. We have a few bulls and heifers sired by Victoria's Montrose. Write—

**A. CUMMING, Lone Tree P.O., Man.**

## SHORTHORNS COTSWOLDS

are what we are breeding, and if you want anything in our line you may find it to your advantage to try us before buying elsewhere. **D. HYSOP & SON**

2½ miles from station. Box 492, Killarney, Man.

## SHORTHORNS, B P ROCKS

**NINE BULL CALVES  
SEVERAL FINE HEIFERS  
50 to 60 B. P. ROCKS**  
(strong, well marked cockerels).

My herd consists of 40 animals, headed by Lord Stanley 23th. Correspondence solicited.

**WALTER JAMES - Rosser, Man.**

## Hazel Rigg Holsteins

**BULLS FOR SALE.**

**CORNELIUS TEAKE**, first prize yearling at Winnipeg and Brandon; **STANLEY TEAKE**, first prize calf under six months at Winnipeg; two choice bulls, good enough to head any herd. **TEMPEST 3rd's CLO'HILDE**, our 4-year-old stock bull, sweepstakes at Winnipeg and Brandon.

These are the kind to buy. Write for particulars as to breeding, etc.

**Jas. GLENNIE & SON, Longburn, Man**

## Thornedale Stock Farm

**24 SHORTHORN BULLS  
30 SHORTHORN FEMALES**

For sale. They are a good strong lot. Write to—

**JOHN S. ROBSON, Manitou, Man.**



A lot of nice, lengthy **YOUNG BERKSHIRES,**

Both sex, pairs and trios, no kin. Prices to suit the crops.

**Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerels (Beauties.)**

M. B. Turkeys from my prize winners.

**A FEW SPLENDID TOULOUSE GESE**

**Wm. Kitson, Burnside, Man**

**LARGE IMPROVED YORKSHIRES.**

**OXFORD DOWN SHEEP.**

**BUFF WYANDOTTES.**

**BUFF LACED POLANDS.**

**S.C. BROWN LEGHORNS.**

**J. B. JICKLING, Carman, Man.**

Young stock for sale. Eggs in Season.

## J. E. SMITH

J. E. Smith offers for sale 45 Shorthorn Bulls, all ages. A number sired by Lord Stanley II (22260). Some (imp.) from Ontario. All this year's crop of Golden Measure (imp.) calves are sold. 40 Shorthorn Heifers, from 6 months to 2 years old. 60 Shorthorn Cows, all ages. A few young Clydesdale stallions, mares and fillies of all ages for sale.

Everything for sale except my stock bulls, Lord Stanley II and Golden Measure (imp.) and the Clydesdale stallion Prince Charlie (imp.). Come and see the stock.

**J. E. SMITH, P.O. Box 274, Tel. 4, SMITHFIELD AV, BRANDON**



## Island Home Stock Farm.

**30 HEAD**

## Registered Shorthorns,

**both sexes to choose from**

This herd won more prizes than any other herd in Saskatchewan. My 3-year-old bull headed four 1st prize herds, grades and thoroughbreds, also bull and two of his get at Saskatoon and Rosthern Fairs in 1899, and my 2-year-old headed 1st prize herds this year at same places, also winning 1st as a 2-year-old at Rosthern and bull any age at Saskatoon.

You can buy from me cheaper than in Manitoba or Ontario.

Call and see, or write—

**Jos. Caswell, Saskatoon West, N.W.T.**

## D. McBETH, OAK LAKE MAN.

**BREEDER OF**

**Clydesdale Horses**

**AND**

**Shorthorn Cattle**



I have a number of promising young Stallions for sale.

My Shorthorn herd is headed by "Best Yet," bred by Hon. John Dryden, of Brooklyn, Ont. A number of young stock of both sexes, all registered, are for sale, and can be recommended as first-class animals.

Correspondence solicited. Prices right.

## THORNCLIFFE STOCK FARM.

**Largest Stud of Clydesdales in Canada**

Headed by the champion stallion of all ages **LYON MACGREGOR.**

**STALLIONS & COLTS** from the best blood in Scotland and Canada.

**AYRSHIRE BULLS & HEIFERS** from imported stock.

**BEST MILKING STRAINS** with good teats.

**TERMS REASONABLE.**

A visit to Thorncliffe will repay you.

**ROBT. DAVIES, Thorncliffe Stock Farm, TORONTO.**

## PIONEER HERD of SHORTHORNS



I have been breeding Shorthorn Cattle right here for over a quarter of a century. I breed my own Show Cattle, and last year had at the Winnipeg Industrial the Gold Medal Herd. First for Bull and two of his get, and first for Cow and two of her progeny. I usually have stuff for sale, and am always pleased to show it.

**WALTER LYNCH, Westbourne, Man.**

## Farms and Stock

For sale at all times. Apply to

**H. R. KEYES, Keyes, Man.**

not seem to be popular. A provincial bill upon the lines of the bills introduced in the local legislature by Messrs. Sirett and Kennedy would meet with more approval.

Sixth. Every farmer should have some other source of revenue than the wheat

all America and selling the half dozen for \$500 each.

In the selling classes for breeding purposes the Herefords had the highest figures going. One bull went at \$3,500, one at \$1,550, a cow at \$3,150 and another at \$2,800. This is the highest single figure ever made for any Hereford cow. The average for 95, male and fe-

## The Tuberculin Test Condemned.

Recently the Farmer called attention to the new move of the United States Department of Agriculture in deciding in the future to test all breeding stock entering the U.S. with tuberculin by their own veterinarians instead of accepting Canadian tests. It was thought at the



The Farm of John Ralston (Ralston's Valley) near Rapid City, Man.

crop. So much has been said upon "mixed farming" that it is needless to dwell upon it here, but this year has given an object lesson that may be of some service.

Seventh. Every farmer knows that a crop may not come up to his expectations, even in a favorable season; but if there is an element of chance each succeeding year demonstrates more clearly that good farming pays, and the man who combines science with experience will most surely prosper.

Eighth. Be careful about incurring liabilities upon the strength of next year's crop.

The crop of 1900 has been a poor one, and many will feel their circumstances straitened, but it is cheering to know that there is no want of confidence in our country. The capabilities are too well-known, and people are facing the situation courageously and will begin another year's work with undiminished energy, hopefully looking toward the future

## International Live Stock Show at Chicago.

This show, held in the second week of December, was perhaps the greatest of its kind ever held in America, \$75,000 having been distributed in prizes. In the very limited space we can give it here, we can only touch on one or two points most likely to interest Canadian readers. In the classes for breeding stock, Galloways shown by D. McCrae, Guelph, Ont., were the only Canadian pure bred cattle to get into the prize list. He had two seconds, a third and fourth. In Shropshire sheep, J. Campbell, Woodville, and R. Gibson, Delaware, had very gratifying success. In Lincolns all prizes went to J. T. Gibson, Denfield, Ont., and J. H. and E. Patrick, Iderton, Ont., John Kelly, Shakspere, and I. M. Gardhouse, Highfield, had honors in Leicesters. Canadians also did well with grade sheep.

In Clydesdales there was a splendid showing. C. E. Clark, St. Cloud, getting the championship with Earl of Bomhie, a son of the great horse, Baron's Pride. The Clydesdales had also special success in the draft horse class. Messrs. Walker & Son, Liverpool, England,

male, was \$420. In Shorthorns the top figures were \$1,840 and \$1,000, and for 96 head, an average of \$336. In Polled Angus the highest figure was \$1,205, and the average for 100 head \$340. Galloways, with \$1,200 as top figure, averaged \$220 for 100 head.

In heef the glory of the contest went to the Polled Angus breed. Advance, the champion of the breed, shown by S. R. Pierce, sold by auction at \$150 a pound. He showed as a yearling and his 1,430 lbs. brought \$2,145, his prize money making \$500 more, the very highest figures ever made by a hatcher's heast. The next highest price was given for a bullock fed by Queen Victoria, which sold at \$750. The reserve for champion went to a 2-year-old of the same breed, owned by the father of Mr. Pierce. A car of 15 Angus sold at \$15.50 per cwt., also a hitherto untouched price for heef cattle. R. H. Kerrick, Bloomington, Illinois, was the fortunate owner of this magnificent lot and the Angus men are naturally jubilant over these achievements. The fat stock interbreed contest was judged by an Englishman, J. B. Ellis, of Walsingham, who appears to have given great satisfaction.

In the carcass competition only part of the exhibits were shown. The first prize grade Hereford was a mere mass of tallow, while another Hereford made a beautiful carcass. The first prize went to a cross-bred Angus and the second to a pure Angus from Michigan College. Other agricultural colleges also competed against each other, Iowa taking championship for one steer, also a grade Angus, but on the whole the Minnesota station had the best of the game.

The attendance at the show was a special success. Thousands of people were turned away and the Breeders' Gazette, after doing its best to record the details of the show, speaks in this rapturous fashion:—"The creators of this exhibition gazed in amazement at their own handiwork. All calculations were exceeded, all expectancy was surpassed. Even those of greatest faith had utterly failed to foresee the magnitude to which this exhibition attained. Those of closest acquaintance with the industry confessed their amazement in the face of the giant creation that had been touched into being as if by a magic wand. It was the climax of successes. It was the end-of-the-century show."

One of our subscribers at Wetaskiwin, Alta., in renewing, writes, under date of Dec. 20th:—"We are having a lovely winter. Some nights are as warm as the day. A little snow, but no sleighing."

time that this was only another move on the part of American breeders to shut out Canadian cattle and so it has proved, for only one officer has been appointed to do this work and he has been stationed at Buffalo. This practically means a death blow to the trade in pure bred stock with the Americans. Ontario will not suffer so badly, but it is out of the question that the Maritime Provinces and all Western Canada can be usefully served by one man in Buffalo.

A meeting of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association was called during the Fat Stock Show at Guelph to discuss the situation.

President Gibson said the present state of affairs was not satisfactory to the Americans either, and they had expressed themselves in no uncertain way at the Chicago Fat Show. In fact, it was intimated that if Canada would do away with tuberculin test for animals coming from England and the United States, they would be in favor of doing away with it also, for cattle coming from England and Canada. A lively discussion followed. Hon. Thomas Greenway denounced the move and said it was prohibitory so far as Manitoba was concerned. The tuberculin test was roundly condemned, also our chief officer of cattle quarantine, Roht. Miller said that Dr. McEachern was no friend of the cattle industry. Arthur Johnston said he was not a coward, but that he lived in fear of one man. Hon. John Dryden said the test was a humbug and fraud and if he had to submit to it he would quit breeding. He would not submit to Dr. McEachern's little squirt gun. The test was a valuable one for detecting the presence of disease, but the application of it to breeding cattle to keep out disease was a farce.

Hon. Sydney Fisher said the test had been imposed by joint agreement of both governments in order to do away with the 90 days quarantine and simplify the shipping of stock between the U.S. and Canada. The imposition of the present ruling of the U.S. government was in direct contravention of the terms of the agreement. The following resolution was then passed unanimously:—

"That in the opinion of the cattle breeders of Canada here assembled, the present regulations relating to the importation of pure bred animals which require the injection of tuberculin as a sure indication of the presence of tuberculosis, are unsatisfactory and likely to bring serious injury to the cattle breeding industry of Canada; that while the test may be used as an aid in the detection of the disease, it is not sufficiently exact to be relied upon; that the disease may exist in such parts of the animal which makes it impossible to be transmitted by contagion or otherwise, and that no real service to the country is being rendered



Harvest Scene on the Farm of James Lorze, Roland, Man.

sent seven in all, but owing to hard luck on the way across, only two of them were fit to go into the ring, where they took 1st and 3rd against the flower of the heavy drafts of America. George Moore, Waterloo, Ont., had a triumphant success with his pure bred Clyde geldings. He had firsts with teams in harness, for pairs, three, four and six horses, heating

H. Mackintosh, Macleod, Alta., Dec. 18, 1900: "If you want good and valuable reading, get The Nor'-West Farmer."

John Bayliss, Sr., Grisswold, Man., Dec. 22, 1900:—"The Nor'-West Farmer certainly deserves success, giving such a large amount of valuable reading for such a small price."

by its use in that connection; therefore, we earnestly request the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture, to take such steps as may seem desirable in order to discontinue its use in that connection."

The Farmer can see no reason why the two governments cannot agree to have the tuberculin test abolished.

**ROXEY STOCK FARM, BRANDON, MAN.**  
**J. A. S. Macmillan**  
 Importer and Breeder of Pure-Bred



Clydesdales, Shire and Hackney Stallions and Mares, Shorthorn Cattle and Shropshire Sheep.

Correspondence solicited. Inspection invited. Prices right. Terms easy. Full particulars on application. Apply P. O. Box 483, Brandon, Man.

**Herefords** Herd headed by "Sir Ingleside 2nd," descended from the famous "Corrector."  
**Ayrshires** include many winners at leading Fairs.  
**ED. T. PETAR, Souris, Man.**

**TURTLE MOUNTAIN STUD**  
 OF  
**CLYDESDALES**



**Imp. and Home-bred Stallions for Sale**

Two-three and four-year-old Colts, sired by such noted stallions as

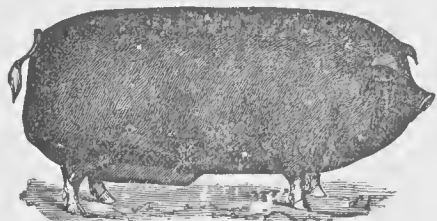
**PRINCE OF WALES (673)**  
**DARNLEY (222)**  
**BELTED KNIGHT (1395)**  
**STANLEY PRINCE (6315)**  
**PRINCE PATRICK (8933)**  
**MACGREGOR (1487)**

These horses are of the finest quality, good action good large flat bone, the best hoofs. Some of them prize-winners in the old country, and all of them large. For further particulars apply to

**J. C. McLEOD, Manager, Ninga, Man.**

Another importation to arrive the last of March

**Poland Chinas**  
 OF UP-TO-DATE BREEDING



Have some fine early Spring Boars and Gilts, sired by Manitoba Chief, (1221) and Bob Place, (1444) for sale, that in quality and price will satisfy the most discriminating buyers. Some fall Gilts of equal merit. Recent additions of newly imported blood ranks my herd amongst the foremost in the country. Also two extra good 2-year-old Shropshire Rams and Ram Lambs for sale cheap.

Write your wants.

**W. L. TRANN, CRYSTAL CITY, MAN.**

**JOHN WALLACE,**  
 Cartwright, Manitoba.  
 Breeder of high-class

**Herefords.**

15 young Bulls for sale.



**ABERDEEN STOCK FARM**



**130 Aberdeen Angus Cattle.**  
**40 Shorthorn Cattle (OF GREAT VARIETY)**  
 My Shorthorns were all brought in from Ontario two years ago.

Aged and Young Stock of all kinds for sale.

**A. B. FLEMING, BRANDON, MAN.**

**DES MOINES INCUBATOR,**  
 The BEST and the CHEAPEST.

Illustrated Catalogue, 5c. per mail.  
 Poultry's Guide, new edition, 15c. per mail.

**O. Rolland, 373 St. Paul St. Montreal.**  
 Sole agent for Canada.

**Shorthorn Bull**

**For Sale**

ROCKWOOD BOY, No. 27,525, is one of the finest bulls in the province, and will be sold cheap, to keep from in-breeding. First prize wherever exhibited.

**GEORGE LAING, - Stonewall, Man.**

**FARMERS' LIVE STOCK EAR LABELS**



A thing that every farmer should use. Also a very handy punch to insert them. Many have answered ad. and sent for circular and price list and ordered. And some have sent for price list and have not ordered. Please tell us why. Send for circular and price list. **R. W. JAMES**  
 KING ST., - BOWMANVILLE, ONT.

**SASKATOON**

**Shorthorn Stock Farm.**

(Established 14 years ago.)

**CHOICE YOUNG BULLS and HEIFERS FOR SALE.**

**3 Bulls rising two years old.**  
**4 Bull Calves.**  
**Heifers and Cows.**

The bulls are roans and reds and a smooth fleshed, fine lot.

The young animals are the get of the present head of the herd, Indian Warrior's Hero, 26,816, a son of the noted Indian Warrior, the champion of the World's Fair, Chicago.

The cows and heifers that have been bred are supposed to be in calf to him.

For particulars apply to

**J. J. Caswell, West Saskatoon, Sask.**

**4 Holstein Show Bulls**

Best Milking Strain.

Two seven months old,  
 one twelve months old,  
 one two years.

Being short of feed, will sell under value.  
 Satisfaction Guaranteed.



**SHROPSHIRE**

Improved Large Yorkshires and Jersey Red Swine

**JOHN OUGHTON, Middlechurch, Man.**

**Maple Grove Farm**

**D. E. CORBETT, breeder of**

**SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.**

Stock always for sale. Have a nice bunch of ram and ewe lambs for sale. My sheep are from the well-known breeders John Campbell and Hammer & Sons, Ontario. Address—Swan Lake P.O., Man.

**It was a Good Investment.**

Being in the livery business, I handle a good many horses, and last winter I bought a standard bred registered Hambletonian, 8 years old, in such bad order that I got him for \$45. After feeding him Herbageum for two months, he was in magnificent order, his coat like a mirror, and I sold him for \$150, and within a week the purchaser sold him for \$250. I find nothing equals it for putting a horse in fine condition, and I have lately had the best of results in a bad case of scratches. When a horse is in very bad shape, I feed more freely than directed.

**H. J. MINCKLER.**

Stanbridge Station, Que.

I cannot afford to do without Herbageum. It is valuable for all kinds of poultry. It keeps them absolutely free from disease, and it is just the thing for raising young chickens. It is also of great worth for hogs, fattening cattle and horses. No one would believe, who has not had experience with it, how quickly it will build up an animal.

**B. MOIR.**

Campbellford, Ontario.

I kept my cow all last winter on nothing but cornstalks and Herbageum. She averaged seven pounds of butter per week, and all the time was fat enough for the butcher.

**D. McPHERSON.**

West Lorne, Ont.

I have found Herbageum just the thing for keeping fattening stock always ready for their feed. For calves a very small quantity does good work. We feed it with skim-milk, a teaspoonful to about a gallon of skim-milk, and they do fully as well as on new milk, keep as slick and plump. Sometimes we drop a pinch of it in the mouth of the calf direct. With pigs it is equally satisfactory.

**DUNCAN McINTYRE.**

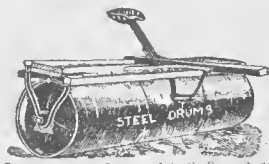
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## A Century of Progress in Veterinary Science.

By F. Torrance, D.V.S., Winnipeg, Man.

A hundred years is a mere trifle in the history of the world, but how large it looms in regard to the veterinary profession, which may, with almost absolute truthfulness, be said to have had its origin in the century now drawing to its close. True, there were veterinary surgeons long before the dawn of the 19th



Group of Prize-Winning Jerseys. (Life Photograph.)

The property of Henry Byers, Macgregor, Man.

century. As early as the middle ages, one Vegetius Renatus wrote a treatise in Latin on diseases of animals, and through the intervening centuries there were men here and there, whose names have come down to us as the forerunners of the veterinary surgeon of to-day. But they were few and far between, and could not be said to form a profession. Certainly in England there was no veterinary profession a hundred years ago.

"War, pestilence and famine" are not, after all, unmixed evils, but bring some blessings in their train, for it is to the first two of these that the origin of the veterinary profession is to be ascribed. The great wars of the closing of the 18th and beginning of the 19th centuries were most destructive of horses, which died in immense numbers not only from the hardships incidental to campaigning, but also to what we now consider preventable diseases, glanders and mange. France and other European nations saw the wisdom of providing trained veterinarians to accompany their cavalry to look after the health and welfare of the horses. It was chiefly with this object that the first veterinary colleges were called into existence, the earliest one, that of Lyons, being founded in 1761. The French were thus the founders of the first veterinary college, and it was a Frenchman, St. Bel, who began, in 1791, the teaching of veterinary science in London, resulting in after years in the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town.

Besides the great demand for veterinary surgeons which war created, another was found in the urgent necessity for dealing in some effective manner with the cattle plague or rinderpest. This disease, which fortunately is unknown to Canadians or to the present generation of Englishmen, was formerly a constant visitor to the British Isles, as well as the western parts of Europe, occasioning losses only less serious than those of war. The suppression of this and other contagious diseases of animals afforded a large field for the employment of veterinary surgeons, and, in response to the demand for veterinary teaching, colleges were established in all civilized countries.

The veterinary science of a hundred years ago, or even of fifty years ago, was a curious mixture of tradition, ignorance and superstition. Practically nothing was known of the causes of contagious diseases, and as in this as well as in human medicine, they were ascribed to miasms or exhalations from the earth, to the visitation of God, or to the influence of the heavenly bodies, whence comes the name influenza.

Percival, the great English veterinarian of the middle of the century, wrote a work on diseases of horses published in 1855. He ascribes all diseases to inflammation, and devotes much space to a description of the heat, pain, redness and swelling which were the accepted symptoms of this condition. But when he comes to explain the causes of inflammation, after naming the accidental ones, such as wounds, bruises, etc., he says:—

"Spontaneous inflammations are such as arise without any assignable cause. That there are many of this description we have daily proof; and yet it is contrary to our philosophy to suppose that diseased action

can be set up without a cause, though it be difficult to discover. Were our knowledge only perfect, and had we a thorough comprehension of the relation subsisting between the body and the various organs, we should probably be enabled to connect disease with its origin in every instance. But at the present we are in ignorance concerning internal causes; we want knowledge, also, about those that are external; and we are ignorant as to the effects of atmospheric influence."

This may be taken as a fair example of the ignorance prevailing among well educated men of this period in regard to the causes of disease. The medical profession was equally in the dark with the veterinary, groping along in the footsteps of their predecessors. The veterinary surgeon of the day was largely occupied with efforts to cure glanders or to invent a new style of horse-shoe, and his usefulness largely consisted in his ability to bleed and physic.

But the dawn was at hand. In the year 1850 the first discovery of an actual visible disease germ was made. This was the bacillus anthracis, the cause of the very fatal disease anthrax. The true significance of this discovery was not understood until some twenty years later, when Pasteur turned the light of his genius upon it. Then followed that wonderful series

strated the causes of such deadly maladies as diphtheria, cholera, bubonic plague and a host of others, and in many cases has provided a remedy. To the veterinarian it has given an accurate method of detecting several diseases in their earliest stages, by providing tuberculin for the discovery of tuberculosis, and mallein for the diagnosis of glanders.

We now know accurately the causes of a large majority of the contagious diseases, can trace the life history of the microscopic organisms which cause them, and in several instances can provide a sure preventative. Anthrax, cattle plague, Texas fever, "black leg," hog cholera are all well understood, and owing to the scientific precautions adopted against them, are kept under control. In other diseases, such as rabies, although the germ has not yet been isolated, a cure has been discovered and the victims rescued from a terrible death.

In the control of contagious diseases the most signal triumphs of the century have been achieved, but the domain of surgery has also its victories to record. The first of these is the discovery of anaesthesia. Chloroform, ether and cocaine have placed in the hands of the surgeon the means of performing operations without inflicting pain, and thus render possible many delicate operations which were formerly too hazardous to attempt. The second is the great discovery of antiseptic surgery by Professor (now Lord) Lister. The benefits of this are perhaps more apparent in the practice of human surgery, but its influence has had a widely beneficial effect in veterinary surgery, introducing better methods of treatment for wounds, and new operations.

The closing years of the century have seen a wide extension of the domain of the veterinary surgeon into a region hitherto neglected—the inspection of meat and milk. These articles of daily consumption may be diseased and may carry disease to their human consumers. The butcher's shop and the cow stable must be kept clean and wholesome and the cattle free from disease. Who is so well-fitted to secure these ends as the trained veterinarian who is conversant with the appearances of disease both in living and dead animals? Recognizing this fact, the American Government has placed the inspection of meat for export in the hands of its Veterinary Department, and in most of the civilized countries of the world veterinarians are employed in this useful and necessary work.



Prize-Winning Oxford Downs. (Life Photograph.)

Exhibited by J. B. Jickling, Carman, Man., at Winnipeg Industrial, July, 1900. The ram lamb was a first and sweepstakes winner, and the ewes were a first prize pair.

of discoveries relating to "objects infinitely small and leading to results infinitely great."

The researches of Pasteur, Koch and their followers have lifted the veil that concealed from human view the causes of contagious diseases, revealing a multitude of tiny organisms, and Bacteriology was born. This, the youngest of the sciences, has already conferred benefits of inestimable value upon mankind. It has demon-

Thos. Hewitt, Strathcona, Alta., Dec. 10, 1900: "No matter how hard the times are I could not do without The Nor'-West Farmer."

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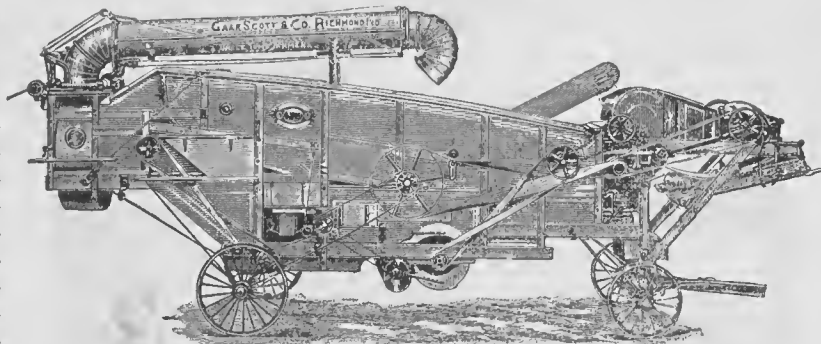
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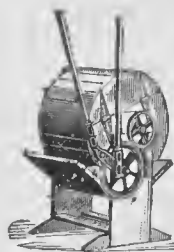
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## Horticultural Progress in Manitoba.

By H. L. Patmore, Brandon, Man.

Looking back over the past ten years, the rapid progress made in horticultural pursuits may be said to have exceeded the hopes of even those who were the most the horticultural prospects in this climate were not promising. Few vegetables were grown, cultivated flowers were very rarely seen, and the thousands of dollars which had been thrown away on eastern apple trees and other stock altogether unsuited to the climate had just about discouraged tree planting. But about 1891 and 1892 it began to be seen that there were a few who were being successful in horticultural pursuits, and their neighbors began to notice their methods and imitate them, with the result that now, in 1900, we find in our towns and villages, residences, the surroundings of which prove to us that even in this climate we can have homes which will compare very favorably with what may be seen in any other country.

In reviewing the progress made during the past ten years, we cannot but notice how largely a little horticulture has added to the comfort and pleasure of living. A new dwelling is erected; the owner, not



(Life Photograph.)

### First Prize Cotswold Ram Lamb.

Bred, and shown at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, 1900, by M. Oughton, Middlechurch, Man.

liking the bare surroundings of his house, plans to improve them by tree planting, and perhaps the making of a lawn. To do this he must interest himself in horticultural pursuits, and gradually he acquires a taste for natural improvements. His interest spreads beyond his own home, and he becomes a factor in the improvement of his street, and of the town or district in which he resides. In nearly every town or village we find men, whose taste for horticultural pursuits has stimulated their efforts until success was attained, and their example now stands as a witness to every one. This should show how valuable a factor in the development and improvement of a country a taste for horticulture may be made, and it should be encouragement to those who have spent so much time and money in helping to bring about the measure of success which has already been attained.

In comparing the outlook of 1890 with the prospect of to-day, we find that at that time it began to be seen that the native varieties of shade and other trees could be made to grow successfully. Then gradually other hardy varieties were found and introduced, still up to the present time, we find that but very few trees other than the maple are being generally grown. The reason for this is readily apparent. No stocks of other varieties have been raised in this climate, consequently these trees were largely procured from the east, the usual result being that the change of cli-

mate was invariably too much for the eastern grown wood. We are beginning to realize that, to be successful, all our trees must be home grown.



(Life Photograph.)

### Shorthorn Heifer, Minnie Bud.

First prize yearling and sweepstakes female, any age, in the C. P. R. specials at the Winnipeg Industrial, 1900. Exhibited by Hon. Thos. Greenway, Crystal City, Man.

For the making of lawns and grass plots in western towns like Brandon the laying of prairie sod was largely practised at one time. This, however, has not proved satisfactory, as it was costly, and the sod used was often worn out and weedy. Now, good lawns are being made by preparing and levelling the soil, and afterwards seeding with suitable quick-growing grasses.

In shrubbery we have found that a very large number of varieties are adapted to the climate, and these, especially the lilac and honeysuckle, are now being largely grown. Ten years back the sight of a spray of lilac grown in this climate was scarcely hoped for, yet it may now be seen in profusion each year.

Our climate has proved to be too dry for roses. They require a moist atmosphere, yet some success is gradually being obtained, as varieties are found which are hardy enough to grow and produce their welcome bloom in this latitude.

In herbaceous plants it has been found that many varieties will live through our winters, and now the peonies, lilies, and other familiar favorites of the gardens of other climes are being largely grown here. Of the many varieties of flowering plants, we find that in no climate under the sun can bloom be produced more freely than here, and now in many a garden and on many a lawn each summer can be seen flowers in profusion.

"Which whisper hope and comfort to man."

Then look at the progress that has been made in the cultivation of vegetables. In 1890 they were a luxury to most families; now vegetables of nearly every description are grown very readily, and are freely used in the daily diet of almost every family.



(Life Photograph.)

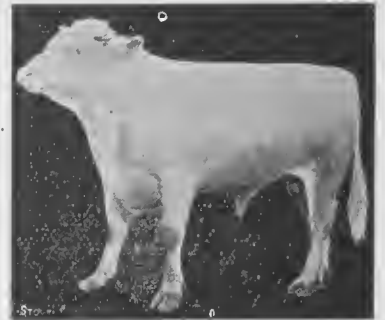
### Ayrshire Bull, Surprise of Fairfield.

Owned by Steel Bros., Glenboro, Man., and first prize yearling at Winnipeg Industrial, 1900.

Now let us look at the advance made in fruit growing. In 1890 scarcely anything but the wild black currant, with here and there a few bushes of tame varieties was to

be found. Now we find the wild varieties are almost entirely discarded, and good varieties of red, white and black currants, gooseberries, strawberries; red, white and black raspberries, and even blackberries are being successfully, and even largely, grown, while rapid strides are being made in the cultivation of larger fruits, such as apples, crab apples and plums. During the past two or three years crab apple and plum trees have come into bearing in many parts of the Province of Manitoba. The history and growth of these trees show us in what direction we must work to obtain success, and there is every reason to believe that a large measure of success will be obtained in the cultivation of these fruits during the next ten years. The experience has been that imported trees kill back for the first few years, then the new wood which has made its growth in this climate, becomes hardy, and as it ages and matures it produces fruit which for soundness and cleanness cannot be surpassed. This teaches us that to attain success we must have the northern grown wood.

In plum culture there is reason to believe we are nearing success. The writer has had growing for years several hundred trees of the hardiest known varieties, the wood of which does not kill in winter; but the difficulty has been to find a variety which will blossom late enough to escape the spring frosts, and yet ripen before the frost catches the fruit in the fall. Up to



(Life Photograph.)

### Shorthorn Bull, Crimson Sirdar.

First prize yearling and sweepstakes bull, any age, in the C. P. R. specials, at Winnipeg Industrial, 1900. Exhibited by H. O. Ayearst, Middlechurch, Man.

this past season not a variety could be found which would prove satisfactory, but the result of an experiment shows us very plainly where success will most probably be attained. In 1897, Mr. Foster, of Wawanesa, bought some Aitkin plum trees from the Brandon nursery. At the same time he planted some native plum seedlings, and grafted the native trees with scions from the Aitkin plum. In 1900 he picked from the grafted native trees, on the 20th of August, ripe plums, which for size and quality were very satisfactory. The native trees grafted with the earliest and hardiest varieties obtainable prove to be far hardier and earlier than the trees from which the scions are taken. This shows us that while we must continue to import and grow trees of hardy varieties to obtain scions, we must for successful growth in this climate look to the grafted trees of home growth. If this plan is followed there is little doubt that in a few years we will have good varieties of plums, crab apples, and possibly apples, which it will prove profitable to cultivate as well as adding to the enjoyment of every home.

Jos. Evans, Castle Mountain, Alta., Dec. 1, 1900: "I have taken The Nor'-West Farmer for a few years now, and it is always a welcome paper."

When writing advertisers, mention The Nor'-West Farmer.

## The Education of a Farmer's Boy.

By W. A. McIntyre, Principal of the Provincial Normal School, Winnipeg, Man.



W. A. McIntyre, B.A.

The education of a farmer's boy should fit him for business and for more than business — for business, because he must make a living, for more than business, because it is a bigger thing to live, than to make a living.

First, then, let us ask what the direct preparation for the business of farming demands, remembering that this preparation is given in the home, and in the school, through books, newspapers and institutes, at the technical schools, by travel, and in other ways. To begin with, intelligence is necessary. There may have been a time when the farmer could proceed by imitation, but to-day, if he is to succeed, he must be thoughtful and original. He mustn't follow a set order of planting his fields because his neighbors are doing it that way, but because he has a reason for it; he mustn't trust to luck in selection of foods for his stock, but must know the use of every vegetable and must govern his practice accordingly. A few years ago in an eastern province the flies were troubling the horses. One thoughtful farmer adopted

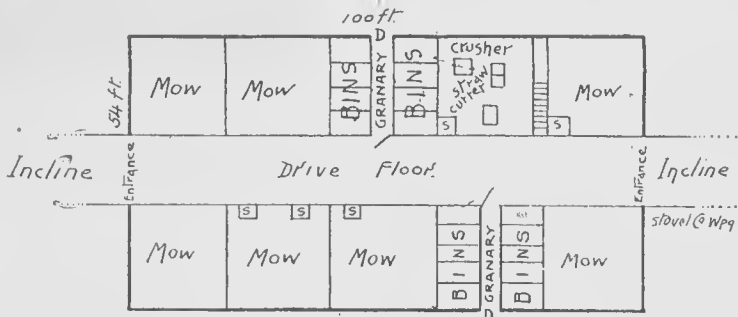
thoughtful farmer, all would have left their horses to suffer till the end of the season. It is strange that they could not go even so far as to see that any other heavy cloth would have taken the place of the old salt bag. This is, of course, an extreme case, but it illustrates what we see every day, not in farming alone, but in medicine, in trading, in teaching, in preaching and what not? In farming, then, the thinking habit seems to be more important than any other, and it may be developed by education.

In the home children can be taught to think or reason as to courses of procedure. Why does cold yeast refuse to rise? Why is cold cream difficult to churn? Why does cultivating the ground around trees ensure greater growth? Why do farmers use bluestone? In school the same habit of thoughtful observation should be encouraged, and towards this end too much of what is known as intelligent nature-study can not be done. Some people talk as if farming could be taught in the public school. That is not possible, but in school, children can learn much useful information about things on the farm, and about farm processes, and above all, may be taught to think about what they see, so that they reflect rather than the imitative habit may be to them a second nature. What classes of plants grow on the hill and what classes near the slough? Why? What difference between the roots of the elm and the maple tree? What differences in foliage are due to these differences in roots? How does rolling a field affect the retention of moisture? Why? etc. And if this thoughtfully-observant attitude may be developed at home and in school, it may be developed still more fully through reading and through farmers' associations, but above all, through attendance at an agricultural school. And here let it be urged that such a school

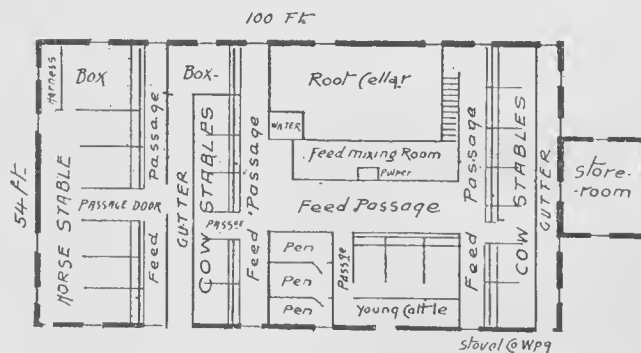
failed simply because they were lacking in some habits essential to success. Such habits are system, economy, carefulness, foresight, neatness, industry, punctuality, and the like. If a man leaves his implements all over the farm to be destroyed by rain and frost, if he gives a peck of oats when a gallon is sufficient, if he leaves a broken hinge till a more convenient season—that is until the gate is flat on the ground and "the cows are in the corn," if he does not keep sufficient seed for next year's sowing, and if he decorates the front-yard with a wood-pile, he surely need not expect that his farming will be a great success. It is not, perhaps, too much to say that most failures in farming in this country are largely owing to the fact that those failing have acquired habits against which it is impossible for them to hattle with success. If we add to intelligence and right habits, a certain degree of taste, the moral qualities of honesty and industry, the social qualities of courtesy and politeness, the farmer may be said to have that which is most directly necessary to success in his chosen work.

But, as was said in the beginning, there is something more important than being fitted for business or for making a living. Life should mean vastly more than getting and hoarding and spending; more than getting money to buy more land to raise more grain, so as to get more money, to buy more land to raise more grain, etc. It should mean soul-expansion with all that it involves. In the highest and best sense, the education of a farmer, as of every one else, should mean an education for manhood. There are some who do not understand this. They imagine that business is the beginning and end of life. Well, maybe it is, if it is the right kind of business. Our Master has said that He was here to be about His Father's business, but it is doubtful if any man has a right to so reduce himself that his highest capability is to get, and get, and get, something that he may deposit in a granary or a chartered bank. Not what a man has, but what he is, determines his true worth. It follows that the very best education a young man can receive is that which tends to refine and ennoble his character. No parent can be more foolish than he who spends his life in hoarding for his children while he neglects their intellectual and moral culture; and no school is worse than that which settles down to giving simply what is known as a practical, or dollars and cents, education. In a good home and in a good school all care will be taken to stimulate to high and noble endeavor. High ideals of life and conduct will be placed before the children, and they will be trained to habits of truth, courtesy and reverence. More than this, it will always be found that an education which aims at character is the most practical. He who has learned to be a man will never come behind in the matter of business.

There is a common enough tendency to narrow or restrict the education of farm boys. They have often little reading provided them, there are few amusements, the conversation is limited to discussions regarding the weather and the crops and the stock. There are few social pleasures. There are, of course, many noble exceptions to this, but still it holds that many farmers devote little thought to making their homes more attractive than any other place outside the home. What is the result? Some day the young man leaves home. He sees an opening away from home for a pleasure that was denied him, the pleasure of companions, of reading, of entertainment. Then he quits the farm and the blame is laid on—well, say the school-teacher. Is it too much to ask that in the home and in the rural school, a boy's opportunities for culture



Top Floor Plan — End Drive



Basement Plan

Plans of a Stock Barn awarded First Prize at the Pilot Mound Exhibition.

Exhibited by Miss Marion C. Brown, Manitou, Man.

the device of tying parts of an old salt-bag beneath the horse's chins, much to the relief of the poor brutes. Some neighbors seeing this, came to borrow salt-bags, so that they might proceed similarly. But for the action of the one

seems to be one of the greatest needs in a country such as ours.

But the farmer requires more than intelligence. He must add to this right habits. We have all met farmers in this country—philosophical farmers, too—who



should be as great as in any town or city? No boy should, on coming to a city, feel that he is a clod-hopper. If a man has too many acres to cultivate to be careful as to table manners, he had better sell a little, and pay some attention to what he may consider "blamed rot." When his boys grow up they may just have "sufficient gumption" to be aware of their awkwardness and uncouthness, and the fact that the "old man" has done

## Old Times in Manitoba.

By R. W. M., Winnipeg.

This country is in one sense a very new one, and its agricultural experience as we now have it is scarcely twenty years old. But just as there were reformers before the Reformation so there were praise-



Prize-Winning Ayrshires.

(Life Photograph.)

Craigielea of Auchenbrain. Imp., 1861, 3rd prize-winner in the aged section; 2nd prize aged cow, Jessie, 2811; and 2nd prize heifer calf of calendar year, at Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, 1900. Owned and shown by Wellington Hardy, Pomeroy, Man.

well for them financially, will not prevent them from hurling anathemas at him for his neglect to teach them the customs of civilized life. In short, then, the education of a country boy should be as broad, rich and full as the education of any other youth, and this because he has just the same human rights. There is no place on this earth like a farm for developing brain and brawn, and our best men have come, are coming, and will continue to come from the farm. But let no man starve the souls of his children by compelling them to live on husks. A boy may well pride himself that he is going to be a farmer, but first of all let him pride himself that he is going to be a man.

Now, should any man say this is the bumptious utterance of a school-teacher, it might be urged that half the writer's life was spent on the farm, the other half with young men, many of them from the farm, and this is not pure theory.

The most valuable grain cargo ever carried on the great lakes was recently loaded in Duluth by the new steamer Howard Shaw. This consisted of 260,000 bushels of flax for Buffalo. As the cargo is insured for \$1.80 per bushel, this would make the total value of the same \$468,000.

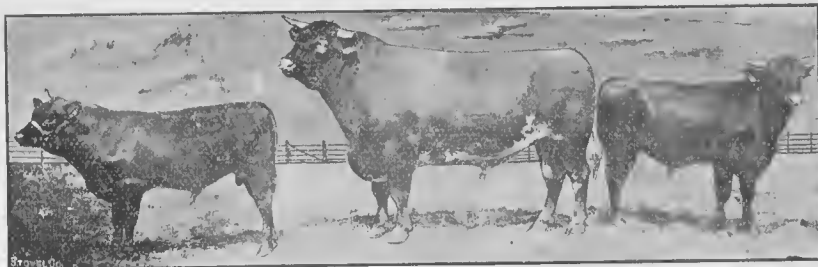
In Australia the servant girl question has reached a more acute stage than in England. The New South Wales Legislative Assembly have carried through its preliminary stages a Domestic Servants' Regulation Bill, which provides that no woman servant shall work more than eight hours a day. Special occasions, such as receptions, dinners, etc., are allowed for three times in a quarter, when the time is extended to twelve hours, provided that the extension is not required on consecutive days. On the other hand, the bill provides that neglect of duty by a servant is an offence.

Auburn & Glennie, St. Mark's, Man., Dec. 7, 1900: "We cannot do without The Nor'-West Farmer."

Geo. Sharp, Kenlis, Assa., Dec. 6, 1900: "I think The Nor'-West Farmer improves all the time. It is in truth by far the best farm paper of Western Canada."

worthy efforts in the way of stock improvement, good crops, fine stock and fine vegetables long before that date. Last July, when noting some of the earlier experiences of Robert Tait, of St. James, we referred to the work of the Hudson's Bay Co. on what are still known as the Hudson's Bay flats, and partly occupied by the Northern Pacific Railway Co. But away back in the fifties the same company had a much more extensive farm at Lower Fort Garry and excellent imported stock, of whose quality old timers, when their memories are stirred up a little, speak with whole-souled admiration, not at all due to the tendency to glorify things now past and gone.

At that time Mr. Lillie, a bright young farm manager, came out by way of Hudson's Bay, bringing with him, among other things, a very fine Shorthorn bull, for whose services progressive Red River settlers were pleased to pay a huge fee and whose stock showed his great prepotency as a sire. This same bull was afterwards taken up the Saskatchewan as far as Edmonton and made his mark there also. The best sows to be had in the settlement were also bought by the company and mated to a pure bred Berkshire boar, making a great improvement in the breed all around.



Shorthorn Bulls, Robbie O'Day, Pomeroy Favorite, and Bobs.

Robbie O'Day was 2nd prize at Winnipeg and 1st at Brandon as aged bull, and the three won first for bull and two of his get. Owned and exhibited by Andrew Graham, Pomeroy, Man. (Life Photograph.)

Seeds of the best kind were also imported, and to this source we trace the old Red River wheat, which still holds its own among the best of the modern varieties. We understand that Mr. Lillie still lives down the river and hope to gather from his own lips fuller details of the improved farming of that early time.

All the old timers speak of the quality of the cattle. The cows, without anything

but the pasture of the outer end of the lots, gave two full pails of milk daily in their season, but the pasture was better then than now on the same ground. Nobody thought of plowing with anything but oxen, and as they got plenty of time to grow they were big fellows, up to 1,800 lbs. weight and dressing 1,000 lbs. when made at last into beef.

The use of horses on the plow is a comparatively modern innovation. Alex. Polson, now relieving officer at Winnipeg, was one of the first to plow with horses. About 25 years ago Dr. Schultz introduced draft stallions, one or two of which were Clydesdales. Fearnought, England's Glory and Melbourne are names that linger yet in old men's memories. Fearnought had killed a man or two at Toronto before coming to Manitoba, and Melbourne left showy stock, but not equal in staying power to the earlier and lighter animals used for driving and buffalo hunting. There is incontestable evidence of the great quality of these light horses. Fireaway and Black Hawk strains, and also from the choice French horses of Quebec, were common with the fanciers, and survivors of the breed still linger among more degenerate and modern specimens. Archbishop Tache always owned a tip-topper, and Mr. McCallum, at St. John's, had three or four. He was a noted educationist 60 years ago, and was the schoolmaster and adviser of Isbister, who, after a most successful career as a leading educationist in London, Eng., died a few years ago, leaving over \$80,000 to help forward education in this, the land of his birth.

As examples of the staying power of those sound, finely muscled horses of the past may be quoted two examples. Donald Flett, one of a large family in Kildonan, drove from there to Portage la Prairie in seven hours, and others did similar distances. When the Rev. Alex. Matheson, now living in Kildonan, went to Toronto to study, his brother drove down to St. Cloud to bring him home at the end of the session. Not finding him there, he drove on to St. Paul next day, a distance of 80 miles, returning to St. Cloud next day, and making the return trip from there to Kildonan in 12 days.

Retired factors of the Hudson's Bay Co., such as Pruden, on lot 13, Kildonan, and Robert Logan, father of the late Mayor Logan, cultivated very fine gardens, currants and vegetables of all sorts, as well as selected native plums, being grown in profusion, and quality not since excelled.

The subject is one full of interest, and we expect before long to collect more material from the memories of the fathers of

the Red River settlement who still survive in our midst.

Geo. Stonehouse, Glendale, Man., Dec. 1, 1900: "We value The Nor'-West Farmer very highly. It gives us some very valuable information and in good style, too."

When writing advertisers, mention The Farmer.

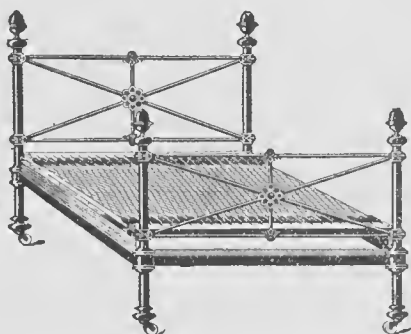
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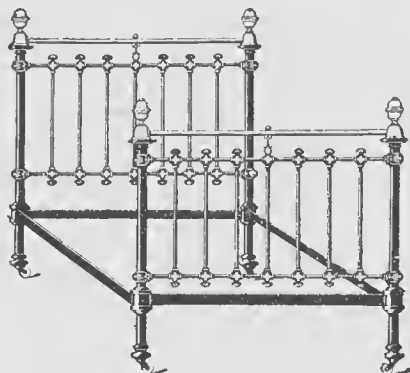


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Beautiful Brass and Iron Bed, white enamelled, with brass rails at head and foot-ends, brass knobs and caps. Sizes 3ft., 3ft. 6in., 4ft. and 4ft. 6in. wide; all 6ft. long.

We carry a full line of Springs and Mattresses to fit any bed. Write for prices on these goods.



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Only  
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Above handsome Parlor Rocker in quarter-cut oak (golden finish) or birch (mahogany finish). All spindles handsomely turned; back, hand-carved; solid embossed cobbler-leather seat.

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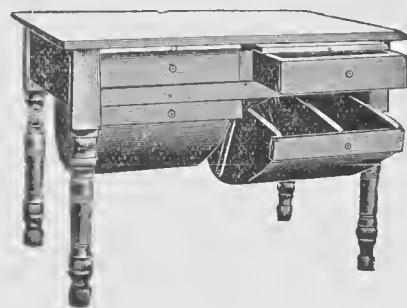
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**JOHN LESLIE, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FURNITURE DEALER WINNIPEG.**



Group of Yearling Herefords.

(Life Photograph.)

Rex of Ingleside, Prairie Queen, and Spot of Poplar Grove. All were in 1st prize herd, under two years at Winnipeg, 1900. Exhibited by J. E. Marples, Deleau, Man.

## Manitoba and the North-West.

A Field for Immigration from a Farmer's Point of View.

By A. J. Cotton, Treherne, Man.

It will not be out of place in the closing days of the old century to take a brief review of the resources and advantages which Manitoba and the Northwest offer to settlers, and to show what a desirable field it is for immigration. We can reach a large number of most desirable intending settlers through the medium of The Nor'-West Farmer, as the paper has a very



[ A. J. Cotton. ]

large circulation throughout Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. Then, too, most subscribers have friends in the East, or in the old country, or to the south of us, and this Christmas number will be sent to them as a sample of what an interesting, live and up-to-date agricultural paper we have. I think, therefore, that a few lines through such a medium will reach and induce a number of settlers to take up homes in this great northwest of ours and share in its prosperity.

We know very little about our own country as to its vastness, its area of arable land, its grazing lands, its minerals, its timber belts, and its innumerable rivers. Let us pause and think of its resources, and of what it may attain to in the commercial world of the future. Take a glance over this vast northwestern coun-

try and see its almost unlimited area and see what an inheritance the future settler has in store for him. Let us show the intending immigrant what we have and what he can accomplish by intelligence, industry, energy and enterprise. The Province of Manitoba has an area of 41,002,240 acres, yet in 1899 it had only an area under cultivation of 2,443,646 acres. Assiniboia with an area of 57,177,600 acres, Saskatchewan with 69,120,000, Alberta with 63,523,200, and Athabasca with 153,280,000, make an aggregate area of over 343,000,000 acres. Now to this add Manitoba's area and we get a grand total of over 384,000,000 acres. In 1899 only 2,959,472 acres of this vast area were under crop, giving a total yield of 67,873,512 bushels of grain alone. With this comparatively small area, as compared with the whole, the great railway companies were worked to their utmost to carry out the crops. This will show the vastness of the West.

The settler still has room, and yet still there is room for millions more.

If we can produce so much off a few acres, what will be our export when we have 100,000,000 acres under crop in the future? This country will then begin to come to maturity and be looked upon as the granary of the world. What an inheritance the settler of the West has! He cannot yet realize its vast extent, its riches, its broad acres ready for the plow, its fertility of soil, its adaptability for growing grain and cattle, its climatic conditions, and its wonderful productiveness, producing as it does that high grade of wheat known the world over as Manitoba Hard, and of which this country north of the 49th parallel has a monopoly—wheat that commands a premium on the world's markets to-day and that produces the finest grade of flour.

Take a look at our grazing land and the choice stock it will produce; see how it is geographically situated in close proximity to the Hudson's Bay route, with which it will soon be connected by the Canadian Northern Railway, thus making a short route to the old country markets. We can then export our cattle through in cold

storage instead of on foot as at present. Then stock raising will pay large dividends.

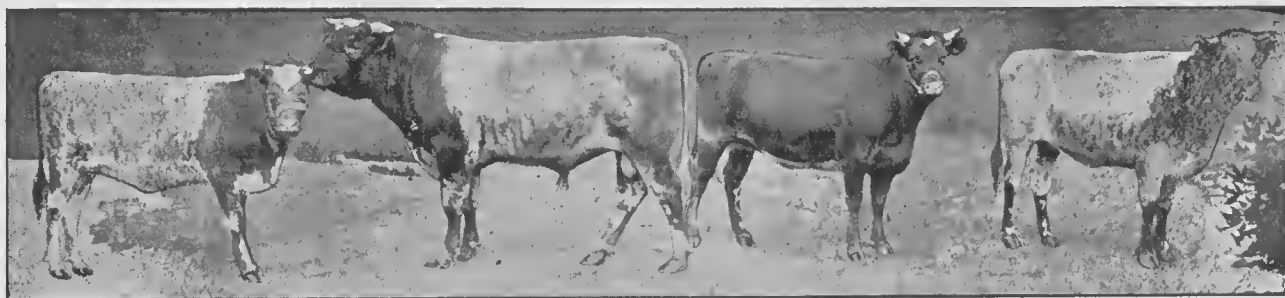
Look at our fisheries. They cannot be surpassed, our inland waters teeming with fish, our waters to the north produce the finest of fish for the market just to the south of us.

Look at our mineral and coal lands. Gold mines from Rat Portage to the Yukon, that faraway corner near the Arctic Circle. A few years ago no one dreamt of the immense wealth it contained, yet to-day it is overflowing with wealth, and is populated by some of our most intelligent and talented specimens of manhood, who have trekked there to make fortunes in a day. Besides producing gold, vegetables, feed and hay can be grown successfully, which goes to show the immense tract of agricultural land which lies between Winnipeg and there.

Look at our immense timber belts—valuable for lumber and pulp wood, which our neighbors to the south are anxious to get.

Wealth unlimited in natural resources! Is not this great West a country to be proud of? Under the British flag, a land of freedom! No wonder the old Lion is proud of his whelp, which in the future will almost eclipse the old land.

Look where suitable land can be found for settlement. The Canadian Pacific Railway's main line runs west from Winnipeg to Calgary, for a distance of 850 miles, through a vast territory well adapted for agricultural and grazing purposes. Then the main line east of Winnipeg for a distance of 50 miles is a fine grazing and mixed farming country, in the midst of which Sir William Van Horne has located a farm of over 4,000 acres and equipped it with modern buildings and stock, intending to make the prairie blossom as the rose. Along the Southwestern branch, from Winnipeg to Estevan, through the great Antler country, for a distance of 290 miles, there is a fine grain belt where the finest crops are raised. On the Pembina branch, from Winnipeg to Napinka, a distance of 220 miles (not forgetting the Snowflake and Waskada branches) there are fine grain and stock lands. Take the



First Prize Shorthorn Herd, in C. P. R. Specials.

(Life Photograph.)

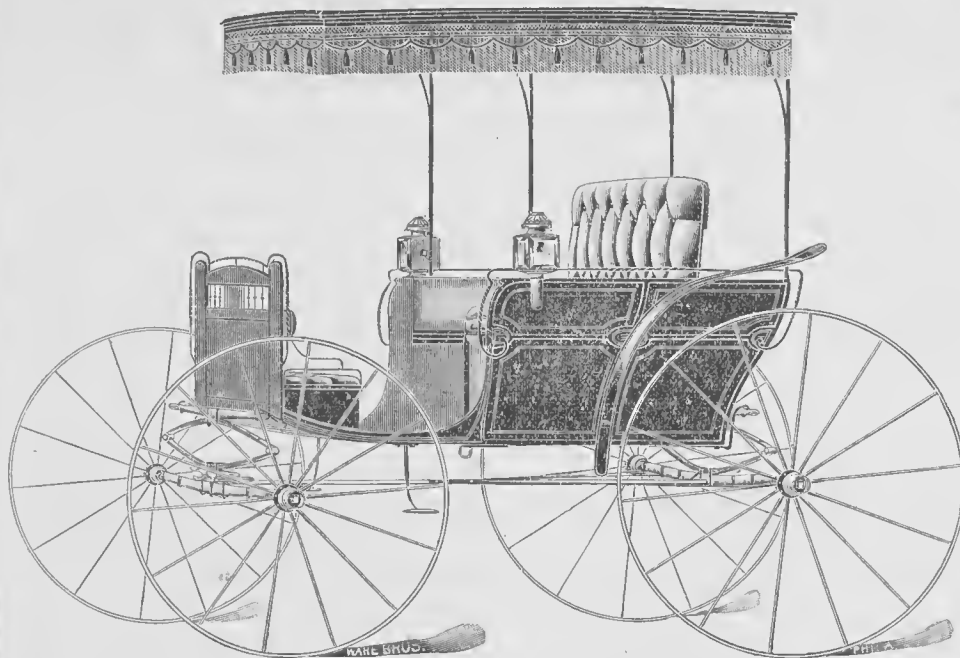
The herd is headed by Johnny Cope, bred and exhibited at Winnipeg, 1900, by Walter Lynch, Westbourne, Man.

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Price \$14.00 f.o.b. Winnipeg.

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We here show you Cuts  
of two nice Markers,  
suitable for children or  
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STOCK and WORKMANSHIP  
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We also offer SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS on Monuments or of any Memorial you wish to order before we go to the Quarries to select our stock for next spring work. We are the only Firm in Manitoba using Electric Power—the cheapest and most economical used—and can guarantee workmanship and finish A1. Communicate with us before ordering, and you will not regret it. Our prices will surprise you. Send for our Illustrated Catalogue.

**Houkes & Wheeldon** 231 Notre Dame Av. WINNIPEG, MAN.



Northwestern branch from Portage la Prairie to Yorkton, with its Rapid City and Russell branches, in a northwesterly direction some 280 miles, traversing a mixed farming and fine dairy country. Then the Emerson branch, some 70 miles long, runs through the famous Red River Valley, noted for its rich lands and fine grain. The Stonewall branch, running north some 50 miles from Winnipeg, opens up a fine country. So also does the Selkirk branch. Further west the Pipestone branch, from Brandon to Manor, a distance of some 120 miles, is opening up the Moose Mountain district, which is mostly all prairie. The Central branch, from Brandon to Minnieton, a distance of 75 miles, passes through an excellent country. Then there is the Edmonton branch, from Calgary to Edmonton, a distance of 200 miles, running through a fine stock and mixed farming country, which grew a tremendous crop this season, and the Macleod branch, from Calgary south to Macleod, through a fine ranching country for a distance of 100 miles. The Prince Albert branch, from Regina to Prince Albert, 250 miles, traverses a fine country, and carries the settler away north to the Saskatchewan river. We must not forget the Pasqua branch, from Moose Jaw south to North Portal, some 170 miles. Then there is the magnificent grain country connected by the Northern Pacific Railway from Winnipeg to Emerson, with branches from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie, Morris to Brandon, and the Souris River branch, traversing in all some 400 miles of excellent grain land. Nor must we overlook the large area of vacant land around Winnipeg, the richest prairie land in the world, convenient to the best market in the west—splendid land for grain, dairying, or mixed farming. Then look southeast, from Winnipeg over the Southeastern division of the Canadian Northern from Winnipeg to Warroad, about 120 miles, through a grazing and timber country. Then look over the Canadian Northern Railway from Gladstone to the end of the construction, some 400 miles in a northwesterly direction, taking in that fine cattle country north of Gladstone, going through the celebrated Dauphin grain district and the Gilbert Plains, noted for its heavy crops, then onward through the Swan River Valley, to which the attention of the older settlers of Manitoba has been drawn owing to its magnificent agricultural lands, suitable for grain raising and grazing, and containing some three-quarters of a million acres. This district is some 75 miles long and 30 to 35 miles wide, and it lies nestled between the Duck Mountains and Porcupine Hills. It shows a rich soil, has splendid water, firewood in abundance, with building material at hand, and any quantity of cheap lumber for building purposes. This will make a splendid farming country, as it is watered by the Sinclair, East Favelle, West Favelle, Minnetonas, Rolling, Swan, Little Woody, Big Woody, Bowman, and Birch rivers, tempering the climate and ensuring plenty of rainfall. It has three flourishing towns already in existence and all not over a year old. The town of Swan River being the centre and chief one, with fine stores, churches, school, station, post office, printing office; in fact, all branches of trade are represented, and it has already a population of about 500. Other parts of the valley, like the Gilbert Plains, will soon have branch roads leading to the settler, there being now some 3,000 settlers located in the valley, besides about 4,000 Doukhobors farther west. Then farther on is the Reindeer Valley, with its immense stretch of agricultural land computed at one and a half million acres of the finest agricultural land still to be opened up to the settler. It is traversed by the Canadian Northern Railway, is well watered by innumerable rivers and streams, and possesses plenty of fine timber, and will make a farmer's

paradise. Then northwest from this is the Carrot River Valley, with its great stretch of agricultural lands ready for settlement and well watered by rivers, then out through the great Saskatchewan Valley on to Battleford, all the way going through a fine country, almost yet unknown to the settler, and on to Edmonton. Then we can go still on in a northwesterly direction through that famous valley known as the Peace River Valley, said to be the best district for grain in the whole Northwest yet to be traversed by the Canadian Northern Railway and thrown open to settlement.

With all this land to choose from, the settler has a magnificent choice. Then, in all the older settled districts adjacent to the railway, there are openings of the very best for the settler. Some without any knowledge or experience of this country have said the best lands are all taken up, that the chances are all gone past for the new settler; but that is not the case, for to-day the very best lands in Manitoba and the Northwest are being opened up and thrown open to the settler. The ex-

### Strictly Scientific.

*Only One Pile Cure Which can be Considered Such.*

The Pyramid Pile Cure is strictly scientific both in its composition and in its therapeutic action, and the best feature is that it is perfectly harmless. No ill effects ever result from its use.

The cure is accomplished painlessly by the astringent properties and healing oils contained in it, which cause the little tumors and congested blood vessels to contract and the obstruction to the circulation to be removed.

The Pyramid Pile Cure is in suppository form and far superior to any salve or ointment for convenience.

It is applied at night and absorbed into the sensitive rectal membrane, acting both as a local and a constitutional treatment.

One 50 cent box of the Pyramid has often been effectual, even in cases of many years' standing.



Clydesdale Stallion, Waldo, 8067.

(Life Photograph.)

Owned by John Clark, Jr., Crowfoot, Alta.

cellent railway connections, lower rates of transportation, mail services, schools, cheap imports are advantages which are a direct benefit and boon to the new settler. These the old settlers of the west did not enjoy. These are chances the new settler should consider. There is still land for sale for the man of means who wants to settle in an old settled district and have all the comforts of life. With such an immense tract to choose from, the settler with capital, the settler with limited means, and the settler with two hands willing to work can be suited and either follow grain raising, dairying, mixed farming, or grazing. Let every intending immigrant from the old country, from the older provinces, and from the country south of us ponder well and think of the resources, the advantages, and the prosperity of our great West, and then emigrate toward the land of the setting sun and become a settler in our land of freedom. Let us build up a great nation under the protection of the British flag; let each and every one of us do what we can to build up our country; let us be a united people and become a great nation.

Relief from pain and itching is so immediate that patients sometimes imagine that the remedy must contain some form of cocaine or opium, but a careful analysis shows it to contain no cocaine, anaesthetic or injurious drug of any kind. It is guaranteed free from any deleterious substance.

The ligature treatment, the knife, or the still more cruel treatment by dilation, besides causing intense pain and sometimes collapse and death, are now known to have little value as far as a permanent cure is concerned.

Thousands of pile sufferers bear witness to the value of the Pyramid Pile Cure and even in cases where a dangerous surgical operation has failed to cure surprising results have been obtained from this remedy after a week's use.

A complete treatment of the Pyramid Pile Cure is sold by druggists everywhere at fifty cents.

The Pyramid Drug Co., of Marshall, Mich., will mail to any address a little book on cause and cure of piles, and a list of cured patients from all parts of the United States.

## Road Making in Manitoba.

By James Dale, Glenboro, Man.

The very first consideration in making roads, either in Manitoba or the Territories, is to so construct them that they will dry out as soon as possible after our heavy rains, as water and mud are both poor materials for roadmaking. The next important part is to have good drainage on both sides. Next the surface travelled on should be as hard as possible and not liable



James Dale.

to be cut into ruts by the conveyances used in traffic. Part of these conditions can be attained by our old style of scrapers, but they are too slow for our western country's rapid progress. As there are so many roads that could be easily and rapidly built, it is important to consider by what means this can be accomplished at the smallest cost to the struggling municipalities.

All of the conditions necessary for a successful road can be most readily attained by the graders now in use in some of our rural districts. These graders are run by four or five teams of horses, a driver for each team, and one man to adjust and regulate the machine. The price to start with is small considering the work that can be accomplished. For one of the best machines the cost will be about \$330. Now, let us consider what it will cost to make a first-class job of a grade a mile long with one of these machines. The four teams and drivers will cost, say \$12 per day. The man who runs the grader usually gets \$2 per day, as it requires some experience, and one team to do the plowing at, say, \$3. This runs the total cost to \$17 per day. On an ordinary narrow grade one mile per day can be done; but from observation I would say that to make a fairly wide grade, 26 to 30 feet, one on which three teams could travel, or pass, is the best plan. A mile of such a grade can be done in two days. Thus, at a nominal cost of \$34 you can build one mile of road that will shed surface water from the centre and have a good level uniform drainage on each side. I venture to say that it is the cheapest, most durable, and most satisfactory road that can be constructed in the province. One of these graders in our ward, in the Municipality of Argyle usually grades about 11 miles by statute labor each season. This, I believe, could be doubled, easily, each season at an outlay of only \$70.

Now, as to the last requirement I mentioned—the quality of the surface. There is nothing equal to gravel for a finish. and on a road constructed by statute labor, six inches of gravel when compacted will make a finished road. If gravel is not convenient shale will make a No. 1 substitute. O. Frederickson, one of our pathmasters, tried some of it as an experiment this year, and during the very wet season on a high dump it stood the test and made a good hard roadbed nearly equal to gravel. This is a finish which I believe can be successfully used where shale is more plentiful than gravel.

Alex. A. Campbell, Boissevain, Man., Dec. 10, 1900: "I consider The Nor'-West Farmer the best out of the ten papers I take."

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One-half the Time, Labor and Solution Saved by using **RIPPLEY'S RELIABLE COMPRESSED AIR SPRAYERS;**

are most effective because they throw the finest spray, most economical because they make the solution go the farthest. Fine machine for white-washing buildings and fences. Will throw a continuous stream 30 feet high. Can't burst. Holds 5 gals., made heavy galv. iron, heavy copper.

For 1901 trade we will have large Compressed Air Sprayer to pull by hand or horses.

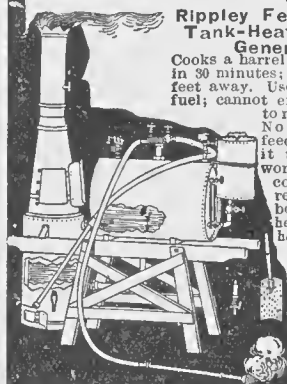
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for house plants, gardens, dampening clothes, apply lice killer, poultry houses, spraying stock with fly removers. It has 1 qt glass reservoir. Can't corrode. Contents always in view. Throws a foglike mist. Will spray overhead. No Sprayers to equal it.

Patents applied for in United States and Canada.

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## NEEDED ON EVERY FARM.



**Rippley Feed-Cooker, Tank-Heater, Steam Generator.**

Cooks a barrel of ground feed in 30 minutes; heat a tank 100 feet away. Uses any kind of fuel; cannot explode; no flues to rust out or leak. No scorching of feed. We guarantee it to do quicker work than any other cooker or money refunded. Made of boiler steel. Will heat hog and poultry houses.

**Rippley's Steam Wash Machine and Feed Cooker No. 5.**

The only automatic washer on the market. It does the washing without the aid of hands. Made entirely of metal; no wood to warp and shrink. Steam does all the work. Only requires 20 minutes to boil clothes. It is also an excellent feed cooker and a cracker jack for heating water to scald hogs, dairy utensils, etc.

Send for beautiful catalog and special prices on all poultry and live stock supplies.

## DIPLOMA OVER ALL OTHERS.

Our Cooker took diploma at the following fairs this season: Toronto Exhibition, Western Fair, London, Ont., Neepawa, Man., Carberry, Man., Brandon, Man.

Our Cookers are Used and Endorsed by the following Leading Breeders in Canada: Brethour & Saunders, D. C. Platt & Son, H. J. Davis, Capt. Hood, Fitzgerald Bros., James Boden, J. A. McDonald, W. L. Trann, and many others.

We also manufacture Poultry and Stock Lice Killers and Fly Remover for removing Flies from Stock and other animals.

We are prepared to fill orders from our branch office at London, Ont.

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## DRESSED HOGS, POULTRY, BUTTER AND EGGS

To the Winnipeg market, will do well to remember us, as we are the largest handlers of above lines in the Canadian Northwest.

References: Any Bank or Wholesale House in Winnipeg. Correspondence solicited.

Office: 147 BANNATYNE ST. EAST  
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## J. Y. GRIFFIN & CO.,

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We give this splendid Air Rifle for selling only 24 dozen Gold Topped Collar Buttons at 10c. each. Our agents find these Buttons very easy to sell. Everybody uses them and any bright boy can earn a Rifle in an hour's time by going to work at once. Mail this advertisement and we send you the buttons. Sell them, return the money, and we will forward, prepaid, this all-steel Air Rifle, the very best make. It has Globe sights, Pistol Grip and Walnut Stock. Shoots B.B. shot, darts or slugs with force and accuracy. Unequalled for bird shooting, or target practice. Each Rifle is carefully tested before leaving the factory. Write to-day LEVER BUTTON CO., Box 11034 Toronto.

## Sheep Breeding for Eastern Assiniboia.

By A. B. Smith, Moosomin, Assa.

In our northwest climate any good kind of sheep will do. I prefer the Cotswold.



A. B. Smith.

The great thing is to select the ewes for uniformity and vigor, and try to find out good nurses. Often the best looking ewes are so because they have nursed a poor lamb, and put all the feed inside their own skin. The ram should be the same style of breeding as the flock, a pure bred, and the

very best you can afford to buy. The man who changes round, "trying" one breed of ram this year and another the next, is bound to make a failure. Stay with the breed you began with, unless it is demonstrated by continuous experience that there is an objection to it which you was not aware of when you began.

To maintain a high standard of quality in your flock you must not only breed with good ewes and a ram of the same variety, but you must keep the best to breed from and weed out all inferior sheep.

As to general care, the flock should have a good house in winter and reasonably warm, but do not overcrowd, as it is injurious to breeding ewes. If put in a cold, drafty shed, with barely enough food to keep them comfortable, the strong ones will pull through and the weak ones fail. When they begin to lamb the ewes will have little milk and the lambs will die or grow up poor, puny things.

If a breeder begins to economize because this kind of sheep breeding does not pay, and uses a ram lamb of his own to save expense, the flock will run down faster than ever from the effect of poverty and inbreeding combined. Breeding ewes should have plenty of good hay and oat sheaves, and the better they are looked after the greater the profit. Before lambing time the ewes should receive a liberal supply of chopped oats and bran, along with roots, if they are to be had. With care and such food the lambs will surprise you, and you will be more than paid for your trouble. As young lambs are fond of tender feed, the farmer should have a piece of green oats or rape for them to run to, and still better is a patch of turnips for them all to feed on in the fall, and with such liberal treatment you will have pleasure and success.

Thomas Cope, Oxbow, Assa., Dec. 12, 1900; "I could not possibly get along without your valuable paper, The Nor'-West Farmer."

—Principal Williams, of the new Veterinary College, Edinburgh, has just died. He was Welsh by birth, but studied at Edinburgh, taking high honors as a student. After a few years' practice in the North of England, he became Professor in the Dick College, Edinburgh, but later on started a school of his own. He was an able practitioner and his two books, "Principles and Practice of Veterinary Surgery," and "Principles and Practice of Veterinary Medicine," are masterly works. He has stood in the front rank of his profession for the last thirty years.

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### Hockey Skates, 50c. PER PAIR.

SPLENDID VALUE. ANY SIZE.

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THE HINGSTON SMITH ARMS CO., WINNIPEG, MAN.

## LOOK

Your choice of a magnificent Silver or Gold Finished Bracelet for selling only 1 dozen handsome Tie Pins at 10 cents each. These Pins are splendid sellers as they are set with colored Gems of great brilliancy, and finished in Roman Gold, the latest Tie Pin out.

## FREE



The Bracelets are made in the popular curb link and exquisitely finished in Silver or Gold, whichever you desire. Cut out this advertisement, and mail it to us with your name and address, and we will send you the Pins. Sell them, return the money, and we will send your Bracelet, carefully packed, free. EXPIRE NOVELTY CO., Box 1105 Toronto.

Increase in  
Business during  
1899 over  
\$1,800,000.00

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Assets over Liabilities, Jan. 15, 1900, over \$43,000.  
Number of Farmer Members nearly 4,000.

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HEAD OFFICE - - WAWANESA, MAN.

A Fire Company insuring all classes of Farm Property at the lowest possible cost to the assured. Doing business under a charter from the Manitoba Government and a license from the Government of the N. W. T.

### OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE FARMERS

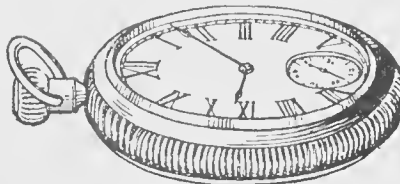
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Insurance against Windstorms costs 50c. extra per each \$100 for three years.

RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED.

Address all Correspondence to the Sec.-Manager.

N.B.—To answer the many inquiries, we wish to state that this Company does not insure against Hail, nor is it in any way connected with any Hail Insurance Company.



### EARN THIS WATCH

By selling only 2 dozen handsome Gold finished Tie Pins at 10c. each. They are splendid value. People are anxious to buy them. You can, in one hour, earn this handsome Watch, they sell so easily. It has a genuine American lever movement, polished nickel case, with ornamented edge, winds and sets without a key. It is neat, reliable, and with proper care will last for years. Cut out this advertisement and mail it to us, with your name and address, we will send you the Pins. Sell them, return the money to us, and we will forward your Watch absolutely free of every charge. EMPIRE NOVELTY CO., Box 1105 Toronto.

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is a COLD WATER Starch—quickly and easily prepared. It is very even and imparts a brilliant and lasting gloss fully equal to that of work done by Steam Laundries. Do your work at home—save expense and get equal results—Celluloid Starch ensures this.

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**ASHDOWN'S, Winnipeg.**



## The Improvement of Native Northwestern Fruits.

*By Prof. N. E. Hansen, Agricultural College and Experiment Station, Brookings, South Dakota.*

The Nor'-West Farmer must certainly be a good advertising medium, because several very satisfactory responses have been received in answer to my request in a recent number for samples of wild grapes from various parts of Manitoba. I have not confined my work to the wild grape, but would also like to improve the hazelnut, high bush cranberry, etc. Several samples of Manitoba hazel nuts have been received, but I would also like Assiniboia represented. I wish seeds and plants of native fruits from the most extreme sections, the driest and coldest, to grow alongside and amongst plants of the same or closely related species from milder climates. All who are familiar with the severe conditions with which the planter who lives on the open prairies of the Northwest has to deal, must realize the need of a list of hardier fruits than we have at present.

with tame, 200; wild raspberry, pure seedlings, 40.

In strawberries the work is being followed along two lines: 1. By crossing with cultivated varieties; 2. By pure selection. The native plants as gathered together from various parts of the Dakotas and Manitoba, several thousand of which have fruited, and show marked diversity in size. All are excellent in quality. About twenty plants were selected the past season and layered in pots for pure plantations next year. In crossing the 5,000 plants enumerated in the list, a new plan was tried. In the fall of 1899 about 350 plants of native and cultivated plants were taken up and grown in the greenhouse during the winter. The tame sorts included the over-bearing sorts from France, as well as leading American sorts. As the blossoms appeared, the bisexual ones were emasculated and pollen from other varieties applied to these and to the pistillate blossoms. The plan in all cases was to have one of the parents wild and the other cultivated. The seeds were sown at once and germinated freely. The pure native seedlings were grown from fruit picked from small patches scattered through a plantation of cultivated varieties. The object of this work is to originate a strawberry that will be

fact, I think that variation can be compelled to appear by such methods much sooner than by giving ordinary cultivation. The florist gives high feeding and culture to plants and reaches results much sooner than any other cultivators of plant-life by treating plants as individuals. For the first few generations, then, let us apply the florist methods to any plant that we wish to modify or improve in any way. Break up the fixity of type. When this is done extend the work, growing the plants by the tens and hundreds of thousands, and selecting from these large numbers for points desired.

Crossing is resorted to wherever possible, as it hastens the process of evolution by introducing new elements of variation. Realizing, however, that crossing with tender cultivated species in many cases has given a lessened degree of hardiness, the main reliance is placed upon pure selection. For crossing, plants are obtained as far north as possible to give, so to speak, as excess of hardness. The methods may be said to be a combination of those of Thomas Andrew Knight, of England, and Dr. Van Mons, of Belgium, modified and reinforced by personal visits to the grounds of numerous cultivators and improvers of plants in America, Europe and Asia.

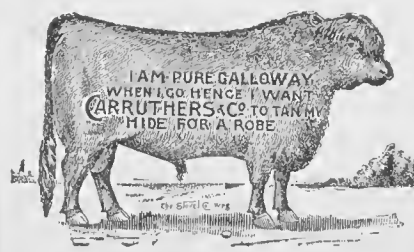


Herd of Cattle owned by Indians, on Assiniboine Reserve, 6 miles South of Sintaluta, Assa.

There is no need of going into detail concerning the great annual losses experienced by those attempting to grow fruit upon the open prairies. Five years ago, upon first coming into this State, from Iowa, a general knowledge of these conditions induced me to make a beginning in this work by gathering together wild fruit plants and trees from various parts of the Northwest. The determination to follow out this line of work was greatly intensified by attendance upon numerous farmers' institutes and by the many letters received from farmers who had failed in raising eastern and southern fruits. The work of raising seedlings was begun as soon as these plants began to fruit to any extent, which was in 1898. All the plants were carefully gone over and the seeds saved from the plants bearing the largest and best fruit. Seedlings were raised the following year and during the past season. A careful count this fall shows a total of over twenty-seven thousand seedlings, made up in round numbers as follows:—Sand cherry, 8,400; plum, 4,000; grape, 5,000; wild strawberry crossed with tame, 5,000; strawberry, pure native seedlings, 1,000; pin cherry, 25; choke cherry, 360; golden currant, 200; black currant, 2,200; buffalo berry, 180; gooseberry, 425; wild raspberry crossed

perfectly hardy even without winter mulching. These plants go into winter quarters in good condition and will, I hope, begin to bear next year. The experiment will be repeated on a much larger scale this winter and a new lot of seventeen varieties has just been received this week direct from France. I expect, however, that the best results will come from pure selection and am prepared to fruit 200,000 seedlings or more if necessary within the next three or four years to get the variety wanted if that is possible, and I believe it is.

My methods are in brief an application of the principle laid down by Darwin that "excess of food causes variation." In



When writing advertisers, mention The Farmer.

Several other native fruits will be given attention the coming season, and a considerable quantity of seed has been gathered together from various parts of the Northwest. Readers of the Nor'-West Farmer desiring to co-operate in this work of breeding hardy fruits for the entire Northwest are respectfully invited to send me small lots of wild fruits, such as are still to be had at this time, especially the high bush cranberry and buffalo berry, and to keep this work in mind during the coming year. Breeding hardy fruits can be done by any enthusiastic cultivator of fruits, but on a large scale it is expensive work and can best be done at experiment stations, where a specialty is made of plant-breeding and furs are available for the work.

It is, of course, understood that this is government work, and that any good varieties resulting will not be monopolized by anyone, but be sent out freely for trial elsewhere.

It is plain that eastern and southern varieties of fruits are out of place over a vast area of the Northwest, and yet wild fruits are plentiful. We must take the hint given us by Nature and develop a pomology of our own. We must have hardy fruits in abundance for our prairie homes.

## The Year's Lessons in Manitoba.

By S. A. Bedford, Experimental Farm, Brandon, Man.

### DROUGHT AND DRIFTING SOIL.

The past season has been a very unsatisfactory one from an agricultural point of view; but even our misfortunes may prove useful if we take them to heart and profit by their lessons in future years.



S. A. Bedford.

Our first trouble was from drifting soil. The snow fall being light, the soil was not packed, and it was all ready to move off with the first strong wind, carrying the seed grain with it. This loose, dry soil also prevented a uniform germination of seed, and a portion of the crop grew at once and shelled early, while the balance did not germinate until after the June rains and matured very late. We learned from actual experience that injury from both drifting soil and poor germination can be greatly lessened by *deep sowing*. The only perfect remedy, however, is by filling the soil with *vegetable fibre*. Newly broken grass sod answers the purpose admirably. Either Brome, western rye, or timothy will do for the purpose, but the first named has given the best sod on the Experimental Farm.

### PREPARATION OF SOIL.

We also found that the amount of moisture in the soil was greatly influenced by the system of cultivation followed. Land that had been continually cropped for a number of years in succession gave a very poor return, averaging about six bushels of wheat per acre, while summer fallow, plowed in June and surface cultivated for the rest of the summer, gave from twenty to twenty-five bushels of excellent grain per acre. One of the best fields of wheat was plowed in the fall of 1898 and cultivated on the surface during the summer of 1899. The soil of this field was packed very solidly and the crop received no check whatever from the drought of early summer.

### STOOKING.

Although the rainfall up to the end of June was unusually light, it was more than made up by the heavy rains later in the season. Cutting had only fairly started when a downpour occurred which scarcely let up for more than a few days at a time until fields, insufficiently drained, or where the surface ditches had been filled in, were soon flooded, and badly stooked grain became so thoroughly saturated as not to dry out again for weeks. It was noticed that although long open stooks dried out more quickly they were liable to be blown down. Large round stooks stood up well, but they were slow to dry out and generally sprouted badly. The best were composed of from about eight to ten sheaves grouped about midway between a long and a round stook.

### STACKING.

On a few farms the grain was stacked directly after the first light showers, and as these sheaves were only wet on the outside, they received no injury from stacking in that condition, and some of our best wheat is from these stacks. When the

sheaves which had become wet to the heart were stacked before becoming thoroughly dry, they heated badly, and the grain was completely spoiled. The same grain would have given a sound sample had it been allowed to dry out before stacking.

### SUMMER FALLOW.

Owing to the catchy season, the necessity of keeping well forward with this important branch of farm work was emphasized. Where the work was backward, the weeds and volunteer crop were so stimulated by the abundant rainfall that they soon obtained full possession, and many fields of fallow have gone into the winter covered with a rank growth. This will make them difficult to seed without spring plowing, thus greatly retarding spring work.

### MIXED FARMING AS A SAFEGUARD AGAINST FAILURE.

The small average return from exclusive grain growing this year should still further direct attention to the advantage of diversified farming. From all accounts, the only class of farmers in the province with a balance to the good are those who have stock or dairy products to dispose of.

### PASTURE.

During spring and early summer natural pasture was very short and the yield of milk small; beef cattle also made slow progress. From this it is evident that uncultivated pasture cannot be depended upon for many years, for the grass plants are quickly destroyed by close feeding and tramping, and their place is then taken by useless weeds. If the land was broken up and seeded to grass, it would support four or five times as many cattle per acre. We find it impossible to obtain a good catch on the native sod without breaking and back-setting it as we would for a grain crop. Even a thorough cutting up with a disc harrow does not destroy the perennial weeds, and they soon choke out the grass. Brome grass is decidedly the best pasture grass for Western Manitoba, and if generally used would enable our stockmen to largely increase their herds and flocks.

### ANNUAL FODDER PLANTS.

Owing to the poor yield of hay in some of the marshes, and loss from flooding in others, the supply of good hay is exceedingly small, and many farmers have found it necessary to sell their stock on this account. Had they sown some supplementary fodder plants, such as corn or millet, they could have provided ample food for their stock, even during a season of drought. Fodder corn is one of the most useful annual fodders. Only early ripening varieties, however, should be used, and the field selected should slope to the south or southeast. The variety of millet known as Hungarian grass is one of the best for this province. It is important that germination should be rapid, so it should only be sown on newly-plowed land or moist summer fallow. It will then get well started before the weeds obtain possession of the soil and the return will be from two to four tons per acre. To make the most of the fodder on hand, it should be cut up with a cutting-box.

With the oats so light, and in many instances badly saved, they are pretty sure to prove deficient in germinating power, and should be tested before sowing. If a small sample is sent to the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa they will be carefully tested. There is no charge for this work and the postage is free.

Potatoes for Supper.—Take cold mashed potatoes, put them in a dish, add one chopped onion, a little beef gravy, pepper, salt, a half-cup of bread crumbs, put in the oven and brown nicely.

## KENDALL'S... SPAVIN CURE



The old reliable remedy for Spavins, Ringbones, Splints, Curls and all forms of Lameness. It cures without a blister because it does not blister.

North Platte, Neb., Feb. 10, '98.

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Very truly yours,

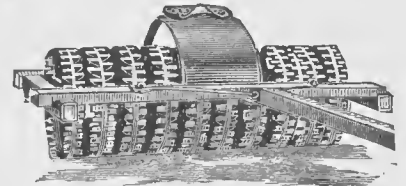
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This Beautiful Doll is given for selling only 2 dozen packages of delicious perfume at 10c each. Our perfumes in three odors—heliotrope, violet and rose. It is so fragrant, and is put up in such beautiful packages, that often several can be sold in one house. Any girl can easily earn this handsome doll. She is a real beauty, 19 inches tall, with movable head, arms and legs, so that she can sit in a chair. Her dress is of rich material, cut in the latest style, and beautifully trimmed with velvet and lace. Her hat is extremely fashionable, and she has also stockings, slippers and underclothing. She is very pretty, with rosy cheeks, red lips, blue eyes and an abundance of light, curly hair. Remember, we ask no money in advance. Simply write and we send perfume. You sell it, return us the money, and we send your doll, carefully packed. Home Specialty Co., Box 311, Toronto.

When writing advertisers, please mention The Nor'-West Farmer.

## Sheep Raising in Manitoba.

By D. E. Corbett, Swan Lake, Man.

Should sheep raising be an industry in Manitoba? The answer to this question will depend upon two others: Is the country adapted to sheep raising, and is there a market for wool and mutton when it is raised.



D. E. Corbett.

Many people claim that Manitoba is not adapted to sheep raising, as it is too flat; they say sheep require

hills. In regard to this I want to say that I have raised sheep successfully for the past ten years, and my farm is three miles from the nearest hill. If sheep thrive in hilly countries, it does not follow that they will not thrive on the prairie.

I firmly believe that every farmer in Manitoba should have a flock of sheep. They are the easiest animals to winter that we have. They do not need a warm stable as do horses and cattle, all they require being a good tight shed, with no drafts. Except in very cold weather, they should be allowed to run in and out of the shed at will during the day, but should be shut in at night. In very cold weather they should be fed inside, and regular food and water is all the attention they require. Very little cleaning up is needed after sheep, and I believe it is harder to keep one cow clean than a dozen sheep.

As for feed, sheaf oats and weedy hay is the best.

Of course, if lambs are coming early, say in March or April, the ewes should have extra feed. Many farmers are unfortunate in losing their lambs soon after birth. This, I believe, is because the ewes have not enough milk to feed them, and it could be largely avoided if the ewes were well fed for a time before and after lambing. I like my lambs to come early in April, for then the early lambs are ready for the grass as soon as the grass is ready for them, and they are in good marketable condition early in the summer, when you can command a good price. Another advantage when the lambs come early is that the ewes have a chance to get in good condition before winter sets in.

During the summer a small pasture will suffice for a flock of fifty sheep, and in the fall they can run on the stubble fields. Sheep are a grand institution for clearing off the weeds, for when turned into a stubble field they will eat every green weed they can find. A few acres of rape make a splendid pasture for sheep during the fall months.

There are many different opinions as to what breed of sheep is most suitable. For my own part, I prefer Shropshires. They mature very quickly, are quiet and easily fenced. I find that five barb wires is sufficient to fence them in. Of course, other fences are better, but are more expensive to put up. The Shropshires are not given to wandering. Having thick, heavy fleeces, they are better protected from snowstorms than are the long-wooled breeds.

With a flock of sheep on his place, a farmer can have fresh meat all summer without paying the butcher 10c. or 15c. a pound for it. At present the home market for mutton is good, and there is no reason why we should not build up an export trade. The wool market is not as good as it might be, but as the country develops it will no doubt improve.

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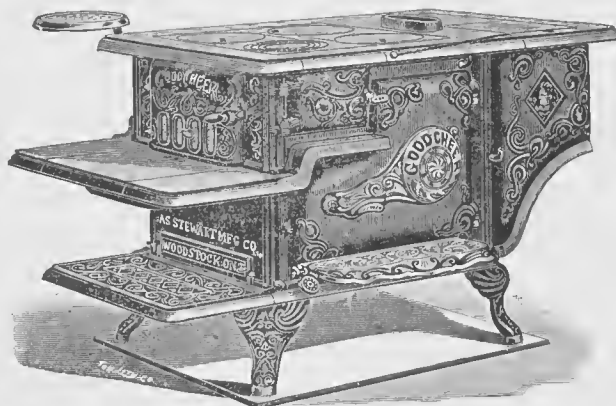
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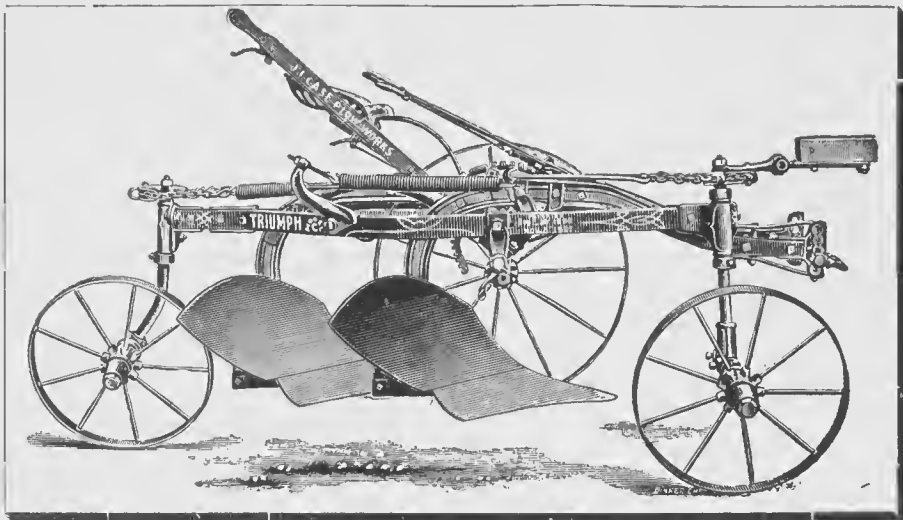
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Before buying a new implement needed on the farm, the wide-awake farmer investigates the merits of different makers' goods and buys what he believes will give most value for his money. We ask him to do the same when he needs Hail Insurance. Let merit decide the question. Our plan of insurance has proved so satisfactory, and we have such unbounded confidence in it, that we want every farmer in the country to know all about it. Write for information or look up our local agent.

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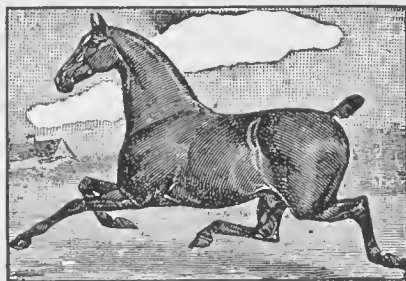
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more than this number of correct answers, we will give in addition 25 Gold Plated Open Face Watches. 1. This competition will close on the last day of February, 1901, and all letters must reach us not later than that date. 2. With your answer you must send close 50c. for a full year's subscription to the HOME MONTHLY MAGAZINE. 3. Money must be sent by Postal Note, Express Order or Registered Letter. Stamps not accepted. 4. All answers must be sent by mail, to insure perfect fairness. 5. Answers will be numbered in the order received, and watches sent to the successful competitors on the last day of February, 1901. Write to-day, for this is a special offer of a regular \$1.00 a year monthly Magazine for only 50c. HOME PUBLISHING CO., Box 1107, Toronto.

CONDITIONS.



FREE  
51





As it is desired to make this column as interesting and valuable as possible to subscribers, advice is given in it free in answer to questions on veterinary matters. Enquiries must in all cases be accompanied by the name and address of the subscriber, but the name will not be published if so desired. Free answers are only given in our columns. Persons requiring answers sent them privately by mail must enclose a fee of \$1.50. All enquiries must be plainly written, and symptoms clearly but briefly set forth.

## Answers to Questions.

By an Experienced Veterinarian.

### No Name.

If "Subscriber," Larivière, will send his name, not necessarily for publication, he will receive an answer to his inquiry re a soft lump on the kneecap of his mare. Anonymous correspondence cannot be answered.

### Catarrh of the Milk Sinuses.

M. S. M.: "We have a cow whose milk, on two or three occasions, has, when drawn, been curdled, or sometimes quite stringy. What is the cause? What the remedy?"

Answer.—The cow has probably taken cold in her udder and a condition of catarrh results. The stringy milk is caused by the excess of mucus which it contains. Such milk is not wholesome and should not be used. Strip the udder frequently and afterwards rub it well with camphorated oil.

### A Barren Heifer.

Subscriber, Melita, Man.: "I have a heifer, 16 months old, which I can't get in calf. She is not too fat; just in good breeding condition. Will you tell me what to do with her?"

Answer.—The remedy for this condition will depend upon the cause of it, and without some indication of the seat of the trouble it is impossible to locate. In the absence of more definite information, the most reasonable thing to do is to change the bull.

### Neurasthenia.

New Reader, Elm Creek, Man.: "I have a mare about 12 years old, sweats badly in the stable at night, even if not out in the day-time; seems to be worst about the flanks. She was in rather poor condition when ploughing stopped, but is gaining a little now. She eats well. Am feeding a mixture of oats, barley and shorts, with hay; unthreshed oats very poor, and one feed per day of unthreshed flax. The stable is a frame one, with lots of air."

Answer.—The cause of this condition is nervous debility, and when the mare recovers her nervous tone the sweating will stop. Feed her liberally and give her twice daily one drachm of powdered nux vomica in her feed.

### Atony of Uterus.

J. M. M., Crystal City, Man.: "For about three weeks after one of my mares foaled last spring she was very gaunt. She then did a little better, but was never right. Could not get her with foal, and she has had distemper. This fall I thought her water was bad. I found by inserting my arm that the mouth of the womb had never closed after foaling. Can anything be done for her?"

Answer.—You have allowed this case to drift along until the condition is chronic and perhaps incurable. Try the following prescription:—Fluid extract of ergot, four ounces. Give two teaspoonfuls night and morning in the feed. Feed her well and let her have the run of a loose box.

### Prolapsed Vagina or Uterus.

F. T. Levick, Innisfail, Alta.: "A sow had three pigs. She strained badly and a mass protruded. I put it back and stitched vent. In appearance the sow seems all right and has taken the bog. Is it safe to let her go on, or should I feed and kill her?"

Answer.—It will be safe enough for the sow to go on until parturition takes place, when a

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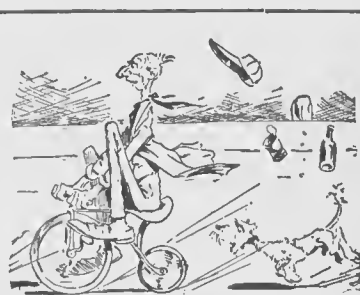
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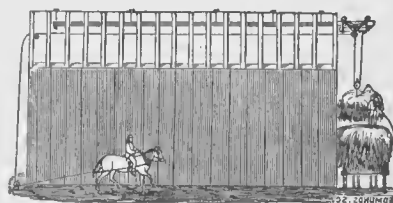
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recurrence of the trouble may be expected. As a means of prevention it will be advisable not to let her get too fat, and to see that she is not constipated at the time she is due to farrow. With care and watching at this time she will probably pull through all right.

#### Tuberculosis.

Subscriber, Portage la Prairie, Man.: "I killed a cow for beef, she was extra fat. On opening her I found an enlargement on the liver, about eight inches in diameter and two inches thick, full of matter. No other signs of disease that I could see. The cow appeared in good health. What was wrong with the cow? Is the meat good to eat? Is there any danger of the other cattle being the same way, and should I have them examined?"

Answer.—The abscess found on the liver was, no doubt, caused by tuberculosis, but as no other organs were affected the meat would not be injurious. The presence of disease in this cow makes it probable that other animals in your herd may be infected, possibly cows supplying milk to your family, which might thus convey disease to the children. You should have the whole herd tested with tuberculin and weed out the diseased ones.

#### Poor Condition.

T. K., Red Deer Hills, Alta.: "Mare, four years old, keeps in poor condition, has good appetite, but soon tires and hangs back when at work. She scours badly when worked hard or driven on the road. Passes no worms. Eyes look dull and she is hide bound. I feed good hay and oats, with bran."

Answer.—The mare is suffering from intestinal disturbance in the function of the colon, the contents of which are expelled before remaining a sufficient length of time. You should give her twice a day a small teaspoonful of finely powdered sulphate of iron. She will probably take this in her feed. If not, dissolve it in water and administer as a drench. After a week's treatment give her a purgative dose of aloes or of oil; aloes for preference, seven to nine drachms, according to the size of the mare.

#### Injury to Pastern and Foot.

Subscriber, Greenway, Man.: "I have a mare coming four years old, which pawed over a wire fence last spring, the wire catching in front of fetlock, cutting its way very deeply into the foot and hoof. I got it healed up, but a horny substance grew out just above the hoof, which is very sore. Lately the cut has broken out, and a yellow substance is running from it. She is quite lame."

Answer.—The coronary band, from which the hoof grows down, has, no doubt, been injured, and the result is a growth of horny substance in a wrong direction. It is doubtful if the foot can be cured, and without an examination an opinion would be of little value. The discharge of yellow substance is, no doubt, pus, and indicates that there is some irritation in the wound which keeps it open. A consultation with a veterinary surgeon who can examine and perform any necessary operation is advised.

#### Local Sweating.

L. S. W., Springfield, Man.: "A 7-year-old mare in good condition sweats along her neck and back, past her shoulders, in the stable, especially at night. The stable is warm and well ventilated. She has had a cough, but that is improving. The mare has not been working much since I quit plowing, but she sweat this way then. What can I do for her?"

Answer.—This is usually due to lack of tone in the nerves which control the circulation, allowing relaxation of the blood vessels of the region concerned and consequent sweating. You should feed her well and give her twice a day a teaspoonful of fluid extract of belladonna. She will probably take this in her feed.

#### Sweeney.

Subscriber, Ellisboro, Assa.: "Is it safe to buy a horse that has been sweeneyed, or is it better to leave him alone?"

Answer.—This question is almost equivalent to asking whether sweeney is curable or not. The answer to this is, yes and no. In most cases, where the cause of sweeney is a sprain of the shoulder muscles, the condition is curable, and the parts become as sound as ever. But there are other cases where the disease has become chronic, or depends upon some incurable lameness in the lower part of the leg or foot, and in these the sweeney is likely to remain a permanent unsoundness. Unless you can get an expert's advice, after an examination of the horse, it will be safer for you not to buy.

#### Wart on Leg—Colic.

L. F., Rosenort, Man.: "I have a colt coming two years old, with a wart on front leg, half way to the knee, larger than a hen's

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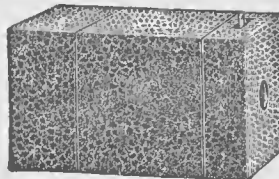
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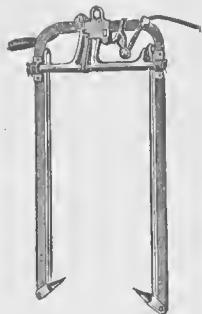
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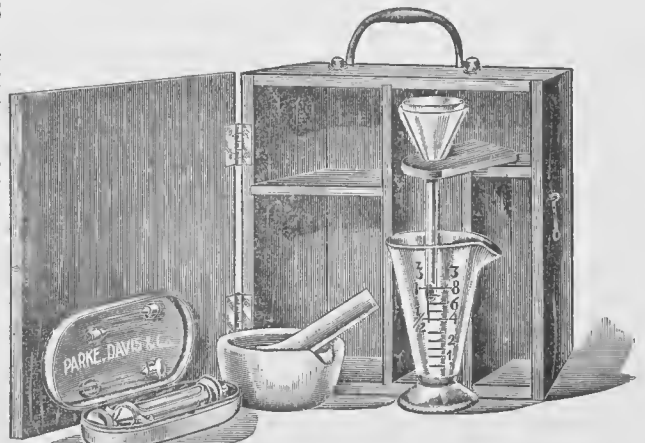
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egg, and it often bleeds. 2. A mare coming six years old, is troubled sometimes with colic. In October for about an hour she was troubled with it, but did not seem in great pain. She was taken the same way a week ago."

Answer.—1. If the shape of the wart will allow it, tie a string around the base of it as tightly as possible so as to stop the circulation. When this has been properly done the wart will in a few hours become cold and clammy. On the third day cut it off with a sharp knife and rub the raw surface with caustic.

2. This colic from which your mare suffers is probably caused by indigestion. This should be prevented by care in feeding and watering. Always water before feeding, feed at regular hours, and keep a big lump of rock salt in the feed box. During periods of idleness cut down the grain ration to one-half the usual amount.

#### A Case for Immediate Help.

Subscriber, Binscarth, Man.: "Have a mare entirely off her feed and water. Have given her linseed oil, as I thought she might be bound, but found this was not the case. Do you think she may not be able to pass her water? She seems very restless, pawing with her feet, resting first on one hind foot and then on the other. I have been treating her for worms lately (linseed oil and turpentine). Shall be glad if you can give me an answer by post, as I am afraid it would be too late to wait the arrival of the next number of The Farmer."

Answer.—A diagnosis of this case from the details in your letter would be too much of a guess to be of much value. The symptoms are indefinite and only indicate pain in the abdominal region. This might be caused by indigestion, or by worms, or by trouble in the urinary organs. Such cases can only be properly diagnosed by a veterinary surgeon, after a personal examination, and it is to be hoped that you obtained professional assistance soon after writing, as the case is one that would not brook delay.

Your request for immediate answer by mail was not accompanied by the requisite fee, and we cannot depart from our rules published at the head of this column.

#### Rheumatism—Night Sweats.

E. G., Beaconsfield, Man.: "About six months ago, you gave me a prescription for a horse suffering from diabetes. He got over it, but has been stiff in his legs since, the front ones being the worst. If he lies down he can hardly get up again. He looks well and has a good appetite. Am feeding boiled huckwheat seeds and small wheat and Herbageum. 2. A 17-year-old mare is very thin, sweats at night, her sides being wet in the morning. Has a good appetite and is getting same feed as the horse."

Answer.—1. Your horse appears to be affected with rheumatism in the front feet, perhaps as a result of the attack of diabetes. This condition is difficult to cure and may cripple the horse permanently. Attend to the state of the feet, and trim them with knife and rasp if necessary to get them into a natural length and shape. After this has been done, clip off the hair around the coronet for a width of two inches above the hoof from heel to heel. Then apply a blister composed of cantharides, one drachm; lard, six drachms; to be well rubbed in. Repeat the blister after ten days. Let the horse stand on an earthen floor rather than on planks.

2. Night Sweats. This may be a sign that your stable is badly ventilated and, at night, when closed up for some hours, the air gets foul and causes this mare, which is not in good health, to sweat.

#### Hypertrophy of the Heart.

Horseman, Lacombe, Alta.: "A horse ten years old ran away two weeks ago. Next day he fetched a load of wood. Noticed slight stiffness in his hind quarters, which I attributed to his over-exertion the day before. From that day he got gradually stiffer, and on Friday last, 10 days after, he died quite suddenly. I opened him and found his stomach and intestines all right, the liver was slightly enlarged, but the heart was quite half as large again as it should have been, and contained a substance much resembling marrow in texture and which was in strings about as large as a finger. The large veins in the neck were also much distended. He was in fine condition and full of life. Kindly tell me what the trouble was, and the best course to have pursued with him."

Answer.—The enlargement of the heart was not the cause of death, which probably arose from haemorrhage in the brain or spinal cord, inducing paralysis and death. This, no doubt, occurred during the runaway, when the exertion would increase the blood pressure in the arteries, with a rupture at the weakest spot. The marrow-like substance found in the heart was clotted blood serum, and is often seen under such circumstances. It is of no particular significance in this case. Treatment in this case would have been of little use, as the extent of the original injury would determine the result, irrespective of treatment.

Wm. Wood, Elkhorn, Man., Dec. 20, 1900:—"This is a hard year, but I cannot do without The Nor'-West Farmer."

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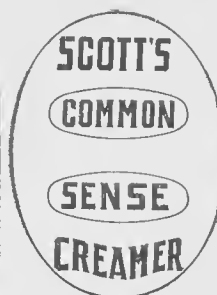
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J. E. Smith, Brandon, has gone on a visit to Ontario.

W. E. Bailey, Carberry, Man., has disposed of the Clydesdale stallion, Burnbrae, to Graham Bros., Claremont, Ont.

Samuel Fletcher, Holmfild, recently sold a young Shorthorn bull of Royal Hope breeding, to W. J. Shaw, Killarney.

D. Hysop & Son, Killarney, Man., report the sale of the yearling Shorthorn bull, King's Own, to Augustus Taylor, Holmfild, Man.

A. B. Potter, Montgomery, Assa., gave The Farmer a call this month. He was on his way to attend the Provincial Winter Fair at Guelph, Ont.

Thos. Speers, Oak Lake, has gone east to look over the Shorthorn herds of old Ontario. Last year he brought west a car of good ones and may do the same this spring.

A. B. Fleming, of the Aberdeen Stock Farm, Brandon, reports that besides his large stock of Polled Angus, he will have 15 Shorthorn bull calves fit for spring service.

The American National Live Stock Association will meet at Salt Lake City, Utah, on Jan. 15th, 1901, for a four days' session. Its membership represents 10,000,000 head of stock.

R. McLennan, Moropano, Man., has sold a very nice Shorthorn heifer of the Cleora family to H. E. Waby, Holmfild. We understand that Mr. Waby intends establishing a pure-bred herd.

A. B. Potter, Montgomery, Assa., reports:—"My sales lately include a fine Yorkshire to the Brandon Experimental Farm. There are still two good ones of the same litter left."

J. E. Marples, Deleau, Man., has sold his well-known Hereford bull, Spotless of Ingleside, 68708, to Wilcox Bros., of Lamerton, Alta. Messrs. Wilcox are to be congratulated on securing so valuable a stock getter.

John Turner, Bonnie Brae Farm, Carroll Man., reports his stock as having gone into winter quarters in excellent shape and doing well. He has a number of young animals of both sexes, nice blocky ones, which he will sell.

George McCulloch, Killarney, has purchased a Shorthorn cow, Minnie Oks, and a young bull, Holmfild Lad, from Mark Cockerill, Holmfild. The bull is a square, growthy, noble fellow, and should grow into a very useful animal.

William Martin, Hope Farm, reports his Galloway herd at St. Jean Baptiste as in the finest condition it has ever shown at this date. He recently killed a female that had gone off breeding. Her live weight was 1,100 lbs., and she dressed 740 lbs.

Wm. Baldwin, Sr., of Manitou, Man., has made arrangements to enlarge his female-breeding stock of Tamworths by securing some new blood from the herd of A. C. Hallman, New Dundee, Ont. He is very hopeful as to the future of the hog business. Look for his advertisement in a subsequent issue.

J. F. Macfarlane, who has for a good many years been a well-known horse raiser at Balfour, in the Battleford district, has sold his place there to J. E. McGaffin, and comes to Moose Jaw, where he will be much nearer the market for the class of heavy drafts he has been in the way of raising.

Wm. Chalmers, Hayfield, Man., writes us that his young bulls by Aberdeen 2nd are doing well. He has eight of them for sale, ranging from 8 up to 18 months, and wishes to sell the sire as well, as he cannot be put to his own stock. This is a bull of good breeding, well-known, and should make a very useful head for some other herd.

D. Fraser & Sons, Lake Louise Farm, Emerson, Man., have sold a team of four-year-olds, sired by their old Thoroughbred, Disturbance. These horses are well-known winners in the carriage class at Winnipeg Industrial, stand 16 hands high and will be used on one of the hose wagons. It is expected that their size and breeding will make them most successful horses for this purpose.

George Laing, Stonewall, Man., is offering in this issue his Shorthorn bull, Rockwood Boy, -27525-, bred by Wm. Stewart, Stonewall. This bull is from stock of J. E. Smith's breeding, is in good condition, and is only three years old. Mr. Laing is disposing of him, as he can use him no longer without inbreeding. This bull has been a good breeder and has an excellent record to his credit.

Purves Thomson, Pilot Mound, has recently sold two Shorthorn cows and a bull calf to Paull Bros., Killarney. The cows are Queenie and Rose of Montclair, both in calf to Calthness. The young bull Calthness Yet is a half brother to Minnie Bud, the young heifer in the Greenway herd which secured the C.P.R. female sweepstakes at Winnipeg last summer. We understand all three animals are of the most fashionable type, and will prove a valuable addition to the Messrs. Paull's herd.

John Ramsay, Priddis, Alberta, is offering in this issue a number of young bulls sired by Trout Creek Hero, also a number of cows and heifers that have been served by this bull. The

name of the sire carries with it a guarantee of good blood, for the name of the Trout Creek Stock Farm of W. D. Platt, Hamilton, Ont., stands for quality in the Shorthorn line. These young bulls, Mr. Ramsay says, are of the low-set, blocky kind, with good hair, and just in this condition to do well in the hands of whoever is fortunate enough to get them.

J. G. Barron, Carberry, Man., reports his Shorthorn stock as coming along famously in winter quarters. They went into the stable in good condition from off the grass and though bay is scarce the stock will be in fine order in spring. He is particularly proud of the young stock sired by his imported bull, Nobleman. Topsman's Duke, the first prize two-year-old at Winnipeg this year, is setting out well and is going to make something good. All his young stock shows thrift, plenty of bone, good backs and hams, and are generally of the low set, thick fleshed kind. His Yorkshires and Berkshires are also coming on nicely.

F. Murdoch, Bru, Man., writes:—"You may take my advertisement out of the Breeders' Directory, as I have nothing left for sale. I consider The Nor'-West Farmer of great value to the farmers and breeders in Manitoba. Any farmer who raises good stock and advertises it for sale in The Nor'-West Farmer, can sell all he can raise at fair prices. During the last six months my stock sales amount to \$850. Many of these sales were made through my advertisement in The Nor'-West Farmer. Some of those who bought young bulls from me are J. Cary, Bru, who got Baidur Chief; Mrs. H. Wilton, of Stockton, the roan yearling Pembroke; Jas. Duncan, of Glenboro, the eight-months-old calf, Lord Eniskillen; and Messrs. Anderson & Secerson, of Grund, get the red bull calf, Gardar. My stock are all doing nicely. I have twenty cows and heifers in calf to the imported bull, Lord Minto -27504-, whom I bought last June from Purves Thomson, of Pilot Mound."

While in Manitou recently, one of our staff called on W. F. Crosbie, to take a look through his flocks of White and Barred Plymouth Rocks. We found the birds well housed for the winter and doing first-rate. At present about 165 fowl—115 Barred and 50 White—are kept. Mr. Crosbie has a very fine poultry-house (photo and description of which appeared in The Nor'-West Farmer last winter), and with its warmth, good lighting and ventilation, he has a splendid chance for successful wintering and winter laying. This year the demands have been very heavy for White Rocks and already he has more demand for pullets of this breed than he can fill, many of the orders coming from points all through the Territories. In both breeds we found some splendid fowl. At the head of the White flock is a very fine imported cock, scoring 94 points, and among the pullets and hens are some which for size and marking would be very hard to beat. The Barred flock also, is doing well and contains a good selection in both sexes. Mr. Crosbie is very enthusiastic over the future of the poultry business, and talks of enlarging his business. For variety in winter feeding he has stored a large supply of cabbage.

On the west side of the Saskatchewan River at Saskatoon is the stock farm of J. J. Caswell. Here he has been breeding Shorthorn cattle for many years, having purchased the foundations of his present herd some fourteen years ago. He has now a nice bunch of cattle and from which some good young stock should be obtained. In this issue Mr. Caswell is offering a number of young animals for sale. The younger ones are the get of Indian Warrior's Hero a son of the well known Indian Warrior. This speaks for their breeding. The cows and heifers that have been bred are all supposed to be in calf to this bull. A former head of the herd was Prairie Crown Prince -13339-, a hull which did good service in the herd. Mr. Caswell has been fortunate in having the herd of his brother close to him. An interchange of bulls could be made to the advantage of both. Leurier of Osler, -31,059-, by McTurk, -20,302-, was also used in the herd successfully. The females are all well bred. The fact that his cattle have ample range insures their hardiness and the young bulls he has for sale should be good rustlers on the range.

No lover of the noble horse could look through the Turtle Mountain stud of Clydesdales of J. C. McLeod, Ninga, Man., without feeling admiration for the splendid lot of Clyde stallions kept at these stables. One of our staff visited the place recently and found the horses—four imported and two home-bred ones—all being kept along in splendid, thrifty shape. The older horses, Larkspur and Macjannet, are both looking very fresh, and have each earned considerable repute in the district as stock-getters. The latter horse is a very large fellow, sired by Macgregor. Prince Remarkable, a beautiful four-year-old which we had never seen before, is a good, large-sized horse, very stylish and showing splendid action. Hotspur, another Macgregor sired fellow, is a strong, well-made three-year-old, possessing remarkably good bone. Ranald Macgregor, by Prince Stanley, is another three-year-old which has come on well, and promises good things. Prince Lookembooth, a brown two-year-old, is a horse with which we were much taken. Mr. McLeod is feeding his horses along growing lines, keeping them in fairly good flesh, yet

avoiding fat-forming feeds. He has a large yard, into which each one is turned for daily exercise. We believe it is intended to add some new horses in the spring to this already large and fashionable stud.

Manager James Yule, of the Prairie Home Stock Farm, Crystal City, Man., writes:—"Since writing you last our chief business has been preparing for winter, and although it has set in earlier than most people expected, we never had the work in better shape. The cattle came in from the pasture in good condition and are since doing well. Our sales have been numerous, and whether it is a good season or a poor one, the farmers find it to their advantage to buy at the Prairie Home. Mr. H. O. Ayearst, of Middlechurch, has purchased the five-months-old bull calf, Scottish Beau, a growthy fellow with good form and splendid quality. He is sired by Judge and his dam is Scottish Belle, -18117-, bred by John Dryden and sired by Patriot, imp., 6409. Mr. Ayearst admired Judge's calves so much that he is shipping one of his best cows to Crystal City to breed to him. Mr. Geo. Fraser, of Glenella, has bought the Ayrshire bull calf, Good Cheer of Prairie Home. He is a good one, bred from heavy milking strains. The majority of our breeding sows have not been brought in yet, they are far more active and vigorous when kept outside. We have a large number of young pigs, which are doing well. We have shipped to H. L. McDiarmid, Headingly, the sow that won the first prize under one year in the Berkshire class; also one of the first prize litter of Yorkshires; one Yorksire to Horace Turner, of Medora; to K. McIver, Virden, a Yorkshire boar and sow; to Geo. Fraser, Emerson, one Berkshire boar; to John Disher, of Deloraine, a Yorkshire boar; to L. Blain, Larivière, a Yorkshire sow in pig, and to Stewart Foster, Killarney, a Yorkshire. Our imported ram is getting splendid stock, this year's lambs being low-set, thick fellows, closely woolled, with stylish, well covered heads. They are admired by everybody. Our breeding ewes are picking their living around the straw stacks, and the majority of them seem to be more than holding their own. We have sold a ram lamb to Thos. Baird, Crystal City; to Geo. Mutch, Crystal City, a ram and ewe; to Drewry Bros., North Dakota, a ram and two ewes, and to Ayceel Gumetius, Turner, N.D., 10 rams."

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## LEGAL QUESTIONS.

As it is desired to make this column as interesting and valuable as possible to subscribers, advice is given in it free in answer to questions on legal matters. Enquiries must in all cases be accompanied by the name and address of the subscriber, but the name will not be published if so desired. Free answers are only given in our columns. Persons requiring answers sent them privately by mail must enclose a fee of \$1.50. All enquiries must be plainly written, and facts stated clearly but briefly set forth.

## Cattle Purchased on Time.

A. G., St. Mark's, Man.: "Suppose a buyer pays a small amount on cattle, and sets a date to pay balance, how long after the time appointed can he claim same?"

Answer.—This is a matter of contract. Within a reasonable time, if the seller still has actual possession of the cattle, subject to lien for maintenance and interest.

## Foreign Creditors' Claim.

Enquirer: "If a person leaves England in debt, without letting his creditors know, can they fetch him back? If so, by whom is the expense of his passage back to England paid? By his creditors or the government?"

Answer.—His creditors cannot force him to return, if for civil indebtedness.

## Limit of Local Improvement Taxation.

Tax-payer, Minnedosa, Man.: "Would you kindly let me know if there is any limit in this province to the rate of local taxation which may be levied, and if so, at what it is fixed. Or is this matter left entirely to the discrimination of the various municipalities?"

Answer.—Local "improvement" taxation is limited to 10 mills on the dollar, and with the approval of the government, for drainage purposes, to \$4,000.00.

## Breach of Contract.

One Who Has Been Swindled: "A let a farm to B, he signing an agreement to perform the work in a good husbandlike manner, but being a thresher, he went away to thresh for his patrons and left the crop unstacked. Some was not stacked till November, although all in the neighborhood was in stack long before that. Finally it was stacked wet. Now it is threshed, but is so wet that A cannot sell his part. Some he can sell, but at a price 20c below what it was worth had it been threshed early. Is B liable for damages? The grain was to be warehoused in A's name in an elevator to be named by A; instead of this B got A's most bitter enemy and divided it at the separator, disregarding the agreement and to A's loss, as he never would have leased on the latter terms. Is B liable for breach of contract?"

Answer.—1. "B" is liable for damages. 2. "B" is liable for breach of contract.

## Lease—Machinery Repairs.

Enquirer, Ninette: "What decision would be given in a court of law in the following case: A farm lease under the agreement clause reads: 'And the lessor, her heirs and assigns agree with the lessee, his heirs and assigns—that she will furnish all necessary farm machinery for the working of said lands.' The attorney of the estate claims that the lessor is not liable for the cost of repairs to machinery. Lessee maintains that the machinery being useless without the repairs necessary to render them capable of working the said lands (i.e., a plow without a share, etc.), that the lessor is not fulfilling her contract to supply all necessary machinery for the working of said lands. The machinery was in working order at the commencement of the three years' lease, but in the natural order of things some parts wore out. The clauses of the lease hold good during the continuance of said lease, and therefore I presume that the necessary machinery must be kept for the working of said lands, and imperfect and incapable machinery does not seem to me to be the machinery referred to in the lease."

Answer.—Without seeing the written lease itself, no answer can be given.

## Wheat Screenings.

Fairplay, Foxwarren, Man.: "A farmer cleans a load of wheat through a first-class fanning mill before taking it to market, thus making it a good clean sample. He sells his load to a milling company, and it weighs, say 40 bushels, and he is told that 45 bushels is all he will receive pay for, as they must deduct one bushel for waste in cleaning. Who has a right to this bushel, the farmer who sells, or the party who buys? At present the milling company are chopping the screenings, and selling them to the farmers. Is this practice not contrary to law in both the cases cited?"

Answer.—This is a matter of contract. If the farmer pays the company for screening the wheat, the screenings belong to the farmer.

## Farm Lease on Shares.

A. F. T., sends his lease, which, briefly summarized on the points on which he asks questions, is as follows: He leases a farm from A and B on shares. He to do all work and supply all material for cropping. He gives to A, as rent, one-third of the crop from the thresher, of wheat, oats, barley and all other grain grown upon the farm. He is to allow B "all the wheat straw that she may require for the use of her stock and one-third of all the oat straw grown on the farm." Provision is made for A to enter on the premises to view state of repairs and receive rent, and for B to live in part of the house, but for no other party. The lease was for two years, beginning March 1st, 1899, and closing Feb. 28th, 1901. The questions are:—

1. Can the party who has rented the farm come and plow without permission? 2. Can I sell straw off the farm? 3. Am I entitled to six month's notice in writing to leave the farm?"

Answer.—1. He cannot during the currency of the lease.

2. You can sell only the wheat straw not required by B for the use of her stock. You can sell two-thirds of the oat straw.

3. The lease expires on the 28th February, 1901, without notice.

## Fences and Noxious Weeds.

Enquirer, Glenlyon, Man.: "My neighbor, who lives on the same section as I, has been using his land, which is adjoining mine, for the last eight years, and so far has not done his share of the fencing between us. We are obliged to have a good fence, as his field is growing a great crop of noxious weeds and our cattle are running back and forth. I have fenced it myself. We have no municipality here yet. 1. Can I force him by law to pay for

his share of the fence. 2. Can he be made to do something to keep down the weeds? He has done nothing so far."

Answer.—1. You can force him to pay his share. 2. He is liable to a fine.

## Right to a Spring.

H. P. E., Bittern Lake, Alta.: "If on discovering a spring on unsurveyed land, can I hold a claim to it when some one was living on the land?"

Answer.—The land evidently belongs to the Crown, and the one in possession has the better title.

## Statute Labor.

Subscriber, Winnipeg, Man.: "Am I compelled to pay for statute labor? I received verbal notice from the postmaster, which has been customary in this municipality, to take my team on a certain day to a certain place to do my statute labor. I complied by sending a man, with a team, who stayed at the works the number of hours which I was required to work. The postmaster did not come to the work according to arrangement, but gave me another verbal notice the next day to take my team again. I refused. He then brought me a paper which he said was a written notice, but I refused to take it, as I considered I had fulfilled my part of the contract which I had entered into with him. I then wrote the council offering to do labor if they would pay me for the loss of time for man and team, but they refused."

Answer.—Work has to be done or a commutation tax charged. Would advise you to see the council personally.

J. C. R. Wightman, West Hall, Man., Dec. 20, 1900:—"I am very much pleased with The Nor'-West Farmer, and read very carefully every article within the covers."

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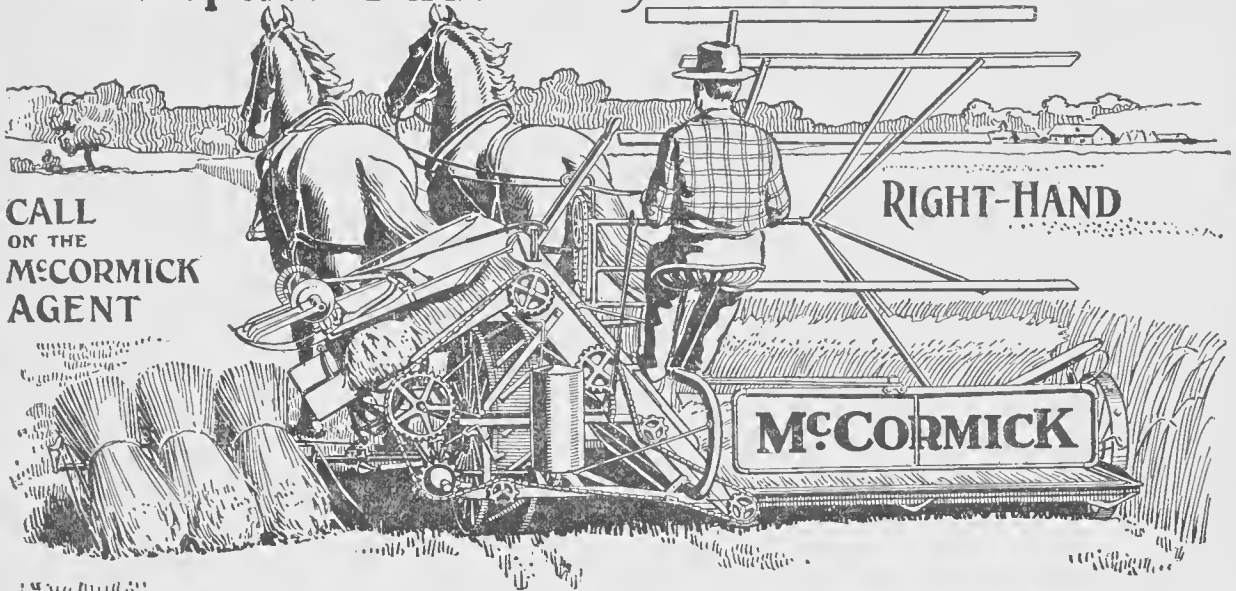
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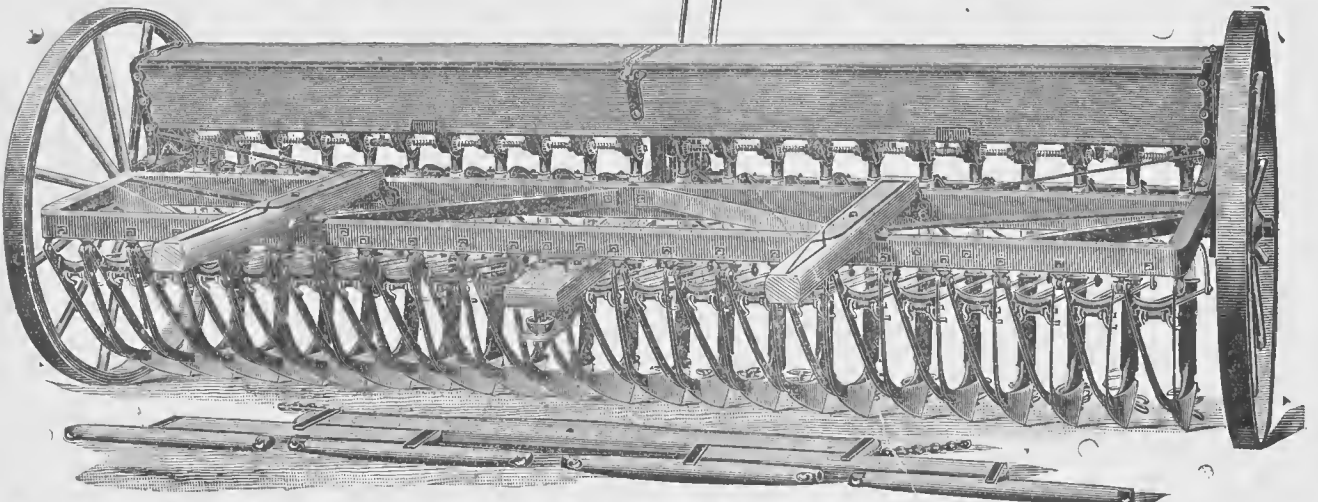
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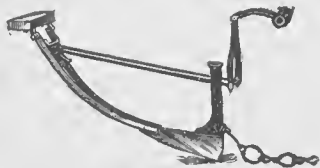


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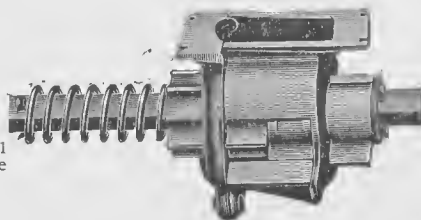
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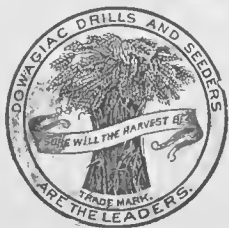


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While our columns are always open for the discussion of any relevant subject, we do not necessarily endorse the opinions of all contributors. Correspondents will kindly write on one side of the sheet only and in every case give the name—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. All correspondence will be subject to revision.

#### Wants Holland Turkeys.

S. Whitman, Souris, Man., would like to correspond with any of our readers having Holland turkeys for sale. It might pay those having these birds to use the advertising columns of The Farmer.

#### Artichokes.

Subscriber, Wawanesa, Man.: "Can you give me any information in regard to artichokes? Is there any objection to growing them for hog feed? I am informed that they will spread over the farm in spite of every effort to prevent them. Is this a fact?"

Answer.—We believe artichokes have been tried at Neepawa, but are not aware that anybody has found them worth holding on to. If any reader can tell us of actual experience with them we shall be glad to hear it. We are inclined to think there are other more satisfactory foods than artichokes.

#### Disc vs. Shoe Drills.

A. A. C., Bois-Sevain, Man.: "I would like to have a little information in reference to disc drills from some one that has used them. Are they worth the extra price asked for them? Will they work without clogging in wet land?"

Answer.—In last issue, page 945, one farmer gives his experience. We will be pleased to have the experience of others.

#### How Many Roosters?

A. A. C., Bois-Sevain, Man.: "Some time ago the question was asked as to how many roosters were necessary for a flock of 100 hens on a farm. My experience last year was with two roosters, Barred Plymouth Rocks, for a flock of 110 hens. The eggs were all fertile. I consider that on a farm one cock for every 50 hens is sufficient. I always kill my roosters when the breeding season is over and I think in-breeding is one reason why some people do not have better luck."

#### Paint on Trees.

Lewis A. Graham, Tamarisk, Man.: "I notice what is said in your issue of Nov. 20th, on 'Painting Trees,' to keep away rabbits. A better thing than paint is two-thirds clay and one-third coal tar. The clay must be fine, reduced to paste, and then add the tar. Apply several times with a brush till pretty thick. It will keep away all insects and vermin as well as giving protection from sun and wind. It also helps to heal any scar. I have tried it for years in the east and think it right to so advise your readers."

#### Testing for Tuberculosis.

J. A. W., Morden, Man.: "Who is the proper person to apply to when you think you have tuberculosis in your herd? Is there any charge for inspection?"

Answer.—Application should be made to the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, Ont. An application form will be sent you and upon you agreeing to certain conditions there will be no charge for testing your herd with tuberculin.

#### Caring for Cacti.

Mrs. F. West, Deleau, Man.: "In your issue of Dec. 5th you do not give any advice for the care of cactus, which bloom in winter. I have a lovely Christmas cactus in bloom now and another which will bloom at Easter. I keep them potted in sand and water them once a week and they grow the year round. I would like to have the experience of others in caring for them."

#### Getting Pedigrees.

Subscriber, Napinka, Man.: "1. A huys a pure bred sow in pig from B. A wishes to

procure pedigrees for her progeny. What course should he pursue?"

Answer.—Apply to Henry Wade, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont., for blank application forms and get the man who bred your sow to fill them out for you.

#### Old Oats as Seed.

Subscriber, Broadview, Assa.: "Can oats from the crop of 1899 be relied on for seed purposes, providing they have been kept dry and sound?"

Answer.—Other things being equal, the newer the seed the better the chance for its germinating freely. But properly stored old oats are safe enough to use, though it may be prudent to give a peck more seed to the acre. Test them between folds of damp flannel in spring to make a sure job. Oats are easily injured in the bin.

#### School Site.

Subscriber, Kelsoe, Man.: "I would like to know if a school can be moved from its present foundation to a point nearer the other side of the school district, so as to make it nearer for the children on that side and farther for our children on this side. The trustees are going to take a vote of the ratepayers and I would like to know what effect that would have on it, and if there is a proper place for a school, so as to suit all sides. This school would be a big expense to move, and, besides, it would lower the value of my farm."

Answer.—The law provides that in such cases as yours seems to be the school can be moved where the majority want it. It requires a vote of two-thirds of the ratepayers in favor of it.

#### Union School Adjustment.

Enquirer, Bates, Man.: "Kindly tell me the basis of adjustment between the respective municipalities in a union school in Manitoba. That is, the proportion of expense to be borne by each, is it based on the relative number of acres in each municipality, or upon the relative number of dollars of assessment, or upon an equalization of assessment, or how? Please give as clear an explanation of this as possible. In the school district to which I refer there is a section of school land in one municipality which is not yet assessed, but which is included in the district. Would it have been possible, by reason of this school section not being assessable, for the adjustment to have been made wrong? Supposing a mistake had been made, whereby eight sections were made to pay the levy that should have been paid by nine, would it be possible for those eight sections to recover, in any way, what they have overpaid in the past, that is, from the other municipality, which thus got off that much easier?"

Answer.—The trustees of a union school have to send to the school inspector the assessment of the district as made by the respective municipalities, and also the estimated expenses of the school for the year, blank forms being furnished for these. The inspector then levies the rate that shall be charged in each municipality. School lands are exempt from taxes, but squatters on school lands have to pay school fees. If a section has been omitted in the assessment the inspector should be notified at once.

#### A Correction.

S. M. Barré, Winnipeg, Man.: "Kindly correct an error in the report of my address before the convention of the Butter and Cheese Makers' Union. In the last paragraph of the first column of page 894, we find the sentence, 'About 50 per cent., on an average, of the directors and other officers of the association was composed of gentlemen without any interest whatever in dairying.' It should have read, 'without any interest whatever in factories, some without any interest whatever in dairying.'"

#### Live Stock Questions.

W. S.: "1. Will you please tell me the best means to cure a halyk horse? If he is hitched to anything he refuses to move. He weighs 1,400 lbs., and is able to do lots of work, if he only will. 2. What breed of chickens is the best for home use in this district? 3. What breed of pigs is the best for home use?"

Answer.—1. In our opinion the best medicine for this defect is to give him a heavy dose of his own will. Tie the wagon wheels so securely that he cannot move it even when he inclines to start and leave him an hour to think over it. If he continue in the same mind let him stay there till he tire of the fun. This is a capital time of the year to begin his education.


2. If you want rustlers, try Leghorns, if general purpose fowls, take Plymouth Rocks. Common fowls with a pure bred cock are good enough to learn on.

3. There is no best breed. The choice is a matter of taste.

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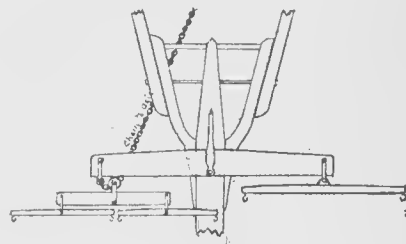
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#### A Three-Horse Evener.

David Bradley, Holmfild, Man.: "I notice in the Dec. 5th issue an inquiry re three-horse evener for wagon, so give a description of an arrangement which I devised some years ago to take the side draft off a hinder (which I did with satisfaction), and it should work well on a wagon. It works an ordinary two-horse evener placed in the hammer strap on the pole. Now if your correspondent will simply remove one of the singletrees from his double-tree and attach about 4 ft. of chain in its place, take a short set of two-horse whiffle-



trees having a small pulley attached in the centre, and place the chain on long doubletree around this pulley and back to the axle or king bolt, and the arrangement is complete. I have tested this device and find that it equalizes the draft correctly, and as it draws on the centre of the pole and axle, there is little possibility of side draft. A small 6-inch evener might be used instead of the pulley, if desired, but I think the pulley gives a little more room for the centre horse, as owing to the slope of the chain it will naturally work outward."

#### A Cheap and Efficient Ice House.

O. Johnston, Elgin, Man.: "I have a very simple plan for storing ice and it works to my entire satisfaction. I dig a hole in the ground about 7 ft. square and 8 ft. deep, hoarding it round the sides with inch lumber; the bottom was clay. Over this I built a one story building 10x12, with a good tight floor, filling in between the joints so that no air could get in and leaving a trap door in the floor. I then collected ice in small chunks from a ravine and put in the well, filling up the space between the chunks with water, which froze solid. This I did a foot at a time till 5 or 6 feet deep. Put no cover of any kind on the ice. We set butter in crocks on the ice in July and it is now as sweet as when new. Meat is kept in the same way. We frequently made ice cream, but did not take ice for any other purpose, and had enough to last all summer. The house above we use as a dairy house for separating and churning. I think this as easy and reliable a way to keep ice for use on the farm as any I have yet heard of."

Note.—The ice well has been tried before in Manitoba, but has been frequently spoiled by letting surface water into it during the summer months.

#### The Farmers' Mutual Hail Insurance Co.

Subscriber, Carlingville: "I belong to the Manitoba Mutual Hail Insurance Co., during 1899, and have paid up. The new company sent along a new form for me to fill out this year. I filled it out and returned it, while others threw it aside and did not think they belonged to the company. Then some were partially

halled; now they have been promised by the company to receive the amount, according to the loss sustained. Do these parties legally belong to the company, and if not, have I any right to help pay for losses sustained by such?

Answer.—As this is a matter in which we presume a good few of our readers are interested, we shall try to make the case as clear as possible. In the first place the present is not a new company. It is the old company, but now controlled by directors resident in Manitoba. The new directors sent out circulars to everyone who had paid his 1899 assessment, stating the conditions applicable to the present year's business. The fact that some of these men threw aside this form as waste paper, is of no consequence to the legal bearings of the case. Every one of them had made a contract with the company for five years' continuous insurance, and the only way in which the party assured could get clear of that contract was to send timely notice to the company that he wished to leave it. Failing that he is still a member, whether he meant it or not. If he had a loss the company was liable for that loss and he could give notice of the loss, have it adjusted and hold the company in terms of the original contract. By the same rule, if he had no loss, the company has a right to be paid the amount of its assessment covering the crop year 1900. Had he filled in the paper sent him by the company, with the number of acres under crop this year, his assessment would have been raised or lowered in proportion. If he did not avail himself of the opportunity then given, the company assessed him on the same area and at the same rate as for 1899.

But if he can show that he had a smaller crop area this season, we understand the company is still prepared to correct the assessment to that extent. One point more. Five dollars an acre for total loss was provided for in last year's assessment. This year the maximum valuation is put at \$4, and if a farmer thought his crop worth less than that he would have been allowed to insure for, say \$3, had he so wished and arranged with the company or its agent to that effect.

Members who had not paid the 1899 assessment were not assessed for this year and could get no payment for the losses they made in 1900. Although the company was defeated in the courts because their assessment was irregular, it is still open to the directors to try the validity of a new assessment made in terms of the statute and try to collect it from those who have till now held them at bay.

It should be clearly understood by everyone that to throw a claim of this sort in the stove is a very imprudent course. Try at once to find out how you stand with reference to the claim made and govern yourself accordingly.

### Feeding Wild Buckwheat.

Peter McDonald, Laggan Farm, Virden, Man. "In the last issue of your valuable paper, J. Hiscock, Baldur, asks if wild buckwheat is good feed for horses. We fed two years ago and are again feeding this winter, not only wild buckwheat, but the seeds of pigweed, or lamb's quarter, with excellent results. We gather the seeds after finishing threshing from the different settings, and if we have not enough we can easily get it from our neighbors. I gathered this year about 150 bushels, and I think this will give us a bag a day for six days in the week until about the middle of March. Our mode of using them is as follows: We built a house 6x6 of shiplap near the well and wood pile. Next we got an old stove which was no longer fit for house use, and had a sheet iron holler made for it, at a cost of \$3. The holler is a little larger than the full size of the stove, and has a wooden lid, which answers the purpose all right. We light our fire about four o'clock, putting about seven pails of water in the boiler, then in about an hour we put on another fire, which will bring the water to a boil, when we put in a bag of the seeds with a little wheat added, say about a gallon, which is chiefly for the fowl. We put on a third fire and leave it until morning, when it will be quite warm to feed. We feed this to 10 horses, about a gallon apiece, 12 mitch cows, about three-quarters of a gallon apiece, 10 calves, one-third of a gallon apiece, and still have some left for the pigs. We feed it to the cattle on chaff, but to the horses in their oat boxes. We find in a year like this, when wheat and oats are scarce, that this makes a cheap feed, and all the stock are very fond of it. We never had a sick horse or cow either winter we fed this. We had no trouble with our cows at calving time, as some of our neighbors had who thought this work was too much trouble. We found our horses lost their old coat of hair much earlier and were in a better shape for spring work. Our cows milk well and we never had a pig founder while we were feeding it as we had other winters. I think it hard to beat for young growing pigs. Of course we only fed it once a day and it makes a nice change. The cost of the fire is very small when we consider the amount of feed we get; two average sticks of cordwood is enough wood to boil a boiler of this feed. Then when we are killing our pigs we find we have a handy place for heating water to scald them."

### How an Every Day Farmer Fattens Chickens.

W. M. Champion, Reaburn, Man.: "I am afraid the plan of fattening fowl Professor Robertson recommends in your Nov. 20th issue will not be at all practicable to the average farmer. Neither do I believe in fattening stations for fowls. I think most of your readers will agree with me that there is more money and satisfaction in disposing of the finished article, whether it be beef, pork or fowls, than selling for some one else to finish. Very few farmers keep account of how much their hogs or beef cattle eat, neither do we keep an account of the fowls. Neither can I tell you how much my fowls eat, only that I have fed them in a way that was very satisfactory to me. I had thought all my life until I visited the Experimental Farm at Brandon that all fowls wanted was plenty to eat. And Mr. Bedford asked me to just try to note result after shutting them up. So this year I thought I would try and improve on Mr. Bedford's methods, which I thought very good, so far. And if Mr. Bedford, or anybody else, who has time to weigh the grain and note the gain, will try my method, I would be very glad to hear from them.

My plan was this: I took all the late chickens, moulting hens, off-colored cockerels, culling out 75 from those I wished to keep over winter. I put the culls all together in a loose box stall, 12x14 ft. This box I made perfectly dark by hanging heavy curtains over the window. I placed two long troughs on the ground. One I kept supplied with wheat, the other with milk. I kept them well bedded with straw. In the morning I opened the blinds and let them feed for, say fifteen minutes, and then left them in the dark again until noon, when I repeated the dose; the same just before sunset. They had no perches, and being kept in the dark never seemed to move from the place they were when the curtain was shut down. I kept them shut up for three weeks and I never saw a better lot of fowls when dressed. I think they were quite 30 per cent. heavier than the best of the flock that ran at large. I received 11c. per lb. for them, young and old, also a letter complimenting me on their quality."

Editorial Note.—Mr. Champion's method is well worthy the attention of every western farmer. Some day it may be in order to fit up an establishment for finishing to perfection the fowls we wish to market each fall. But Mr. Champion shows how we may in a very simple way bridge over the gulf between the seven cents a pound, scraggy creatures we now sell by the thousand and the era of fancy feeding and finishing toward which we are striving to some day achieve. It would have added considerably to the value of this experiment had Mr. Champion been able to tell us the amount of grain consumed during the process of fattening, and the average quantity of skim milk used daily. This and the weight of an average dozen of the fowls when put up to fatten and at the finish would have made the example a very interesting one. Mr. Champion is always a busy man, but may be able to do as we suggest next time he goes to work.

If we understand Professor Robertson's plans aright, it is not his intention to establish stations for fattening fowl on a commercial basis. There will only be illustration stations, showing how the work may be done.

### A Ration for Stall Fed Cattle.

A. E. Bryant, Russell, Man.: "What is the proper ration to give stall fed cattle? I have cut wheat and oat straw and chopped wheat and oats to feed."

Answer.—You do not say whether you want the ration for fattening steers or simply a maintenance one for wintering cattle. In the first place, for either purpose your material for forming a proper balanced ration, is very limited, for it is so one-sided. Both wheat and oat straw are rich in beat and fat forming constituents (fat and starch), and deficient in those which form the lean meat of the body (protein). The most natural ration would be about 10 lbs. each of wheat and oat straw, 1 lb. ground wheat and 1 lb. ground oats. This ration contains too much dry matter, i.e., is too bulky, has only about one-half the protein it should have and has much more of the fat and heat forming foods than is necessary. Animals will get along on it and may even do well, but no combination of the feeds you have can raise the protein to its proper amount for most economical feeding without unduly increasing the other constituents. The protein is needed by all animals, and especially by young growing ones, to form flesh, muscle, and bone, and while mature animals can make shift without so much protein, young animals cannot. Could you add 1 lb. of linseed meal you would make about an ideal ration for wintering mature animals. For young growing animals it will be necessary to add about four pounds each of ground wheat and oats and a couple of pounds of linseed meal. These figures are for an animal weighing 1,000 lbs., and would have to be reduced, according to the weight of your stock.

For fattening, start, the steers on grain, say four or five pounds a day, until they are used to it, then gradually increase the meal ration until you are giving 12 to 15 lbs. a day to each animal at the end of the first month, and let

them have what straw they will eat. Each month there should be an increase until by spring 20 lbs. a day are being fed. This is the best you can do without buying any feed. The meal can be equal parts of wheat and oats, or vary a little more of one or the other according to the quantities you have. Could you add two pounds of linseed meal a day and reduce the grain a little, you would have much better results. These figures are also for 1,000 pound animals.

### The Dairy School.

In his opening address at the meeting held by the Cheese and Butter Makers' Union, President Barre criticised pretty severely the Dairy School, its teaching and teachers, and the same severe censure has since been made in these columns over the name of D. W. Shunk. The Farmer's object all through has been to get a correct diagnosis of the trouble, and thereby facilitate remedial action. We, therefore welcome a moderate amount of discussion, always provided it is made in a courteous manner. For this reason we welcome the following communication from one who still has faith in the Dairy School and the usefulness of its teaching.

Dairy Student: "It is not true that the worst cheese has been made by ex-pupils of the Dairy School, and I challenge proof of that statement. It is also said that a winter dairy school cannot teach a man how to make cheese in summer. But no one entitled to speak for that school has ever said so, to my knowledge.

"It is a mistake to think that a man is an up-to-date cheesemaker even when he has got familiar by regular daily practice with the various details of the work as practiced in the average Manitoba cheese factory. The percentage of butter fat as ascertained by the Babcock test is the only correct test of the value of the milk supplied by the patrons. Has Mr. Barre been in the habit of buying milk for his cheese factories, by this test, and if not, why not? 'Physician, heal thyself.' In the Dairy School the student is made familiar with the use of the lactometer and Babcock test. The uses of the Wisconsin curd test, the hot iron test and Farrington's Alkaline Talc test are also taught. By these various appliances the student is enabled to know correctly the temperatures for setting the milk, drawing the whey and putting the curd to press. He is also taught the proper method of handgating, pressing and dressing the cheese. The proper temperature of the curing room, and the care of the cheese on the shelves forms part of his education.

"Every man who wants to know his business will also desire to become proficient in butter making, so proficient that when not wanted for the one kind of work he can turn his hand to the other. The care and management of the various hand and power separators, and tests of the speed, capacity and skimming efficiency of each separator is taught each day. The effect of change of speed on the separator bowl, the variations of temperature in the milk and cream are also dealt with. Cream is ripened at different temperatures and the effect on the butter of these changes of temperature noted. The temperature of churning and the different ways of salting and working butter are studied in detail. Marshall's acid test for cream is operated, and the oil-test churn compared with the Babcock test. The value of milk and cream as ascertained by these tests is noted and the student taught how to divide the results fairly among the various patrons.

"My plea for the Dairy School is not that it can do, what only regular work, continued through two or more seasons can teach, but that it teaches what can not be learned in the factory or only learned in a very imperfect manner. One reason why the milk at the Red River factories is not bought by the Babcock or similar test is that the men employed there could not use such a test because they have only been taught the practice without the scientific parts of dairy work. Cheap men brought up from Quebec for a short season's engagement will never bring up Manitoba cheese making to its proper level and it is not the duty of any government to hire instructors at high salaries to make up at the cost of the country at large for the deficiencies due to the miserable equipment of most of these factories and the imperfect skill of the cheap men they engage to do their work.

"Let me point out in conclusion that I have ascertained that among those already enrolled as students for the coming session of the Dairy School are several of the men who have had, last summer, the management of good factories in Manitoba. They have been to the Dairy School already, and will come back because they believe in the work of the school. How is it that men who never set foot in the school can talk so glibly of its worthlessness, when such students come back for another year's work?"

R. Bowyer, Kinlston, Sask., Dec. 12, 1900: "I do not see how you can give so many premiums, as The Farmer is worth more than the price charged of any man's money. Yours respectfully, as long as I have \$1."

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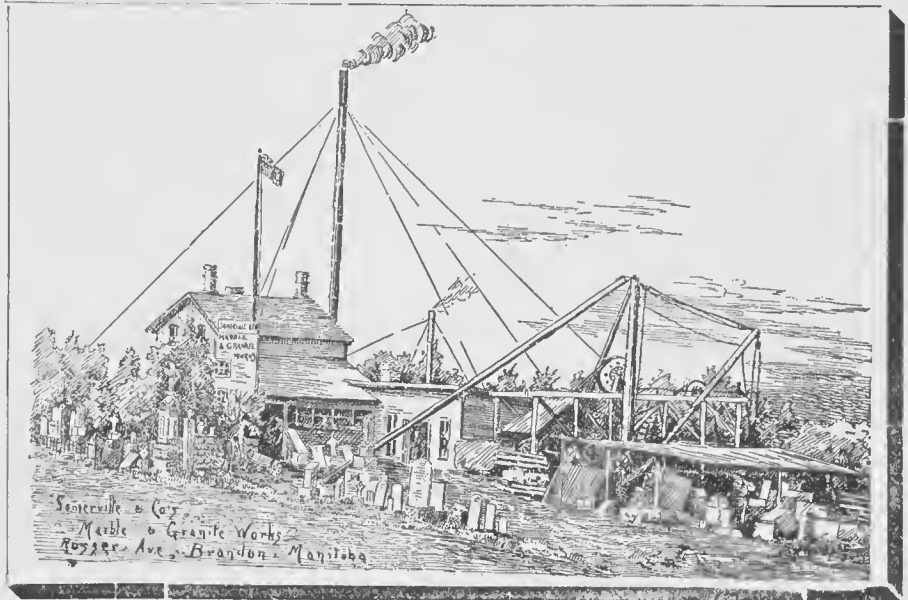
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## Lessons of the Year in the Farmer's Garden.

By S. Larcombe, Birtle, Man.



S. Larcombe.

I am not a prophet, but from observations I made up my mind that last spring would be a dry one and laid my plans accordingly. As in former years I plowed in the spring, but later than I could have liked. I never use anything but well-rotted manure and could scarcely get enough for my purpose, and for real early work, but may have more to say on this point afterwards. Relying on my forecast of drouth, I only worked half of my usual garden area. I was anxious to save all the moisture I could, so harrowed and packed the ground well immediately after plowing, and had everything ready for seed the first week in May.

Having raised no onions in the hot-bed, as was my practice in previous years, I began with them. I got the bed as firm as possible and made the drills a half inch deeper than in other seasons. After sowing, I loaded a wheel-barrow with stones and ran it along the seed track, thus pressing the seed well down before covering it. This is a new idea, and to test its value I missed one drill in ten, covering that one in the usual way. In about two weeks I could see the onions in the row from end to end where the seed had been pressed down by the wheel-barrow. A week later the tenth rows began to show, but not more than one seed in twenty came up. The rest appeared late in July after the rain. In spite of the long drouth, I harvested 40 bushels of the best onions I have ever grown in Manitoba. I tried ten kinds, but had best results with Early Red Wetherfield, Globe Danvers and Prizetaker. The first of these is the most reliable as a cropper, but not so mild in flavor as the Prizetaker.

I treated carrots, parsnips and beets the same way as the onions, the result being always in favor of the pressing, but not so manifest as with the onions. All three made the best crops I have ever grown. Out of several varieties of each I had best results with Oxheart in carrots, Eclipse in beets, and Hollow Crown in parsnips. I took five first prizes with each of these vegetables at the fall show.

I grew 600 cabbages with the result largely in favor of Winningstadt, and for a general cropper it is hard to beat, but Surehead is a good winter cabbage and also for exhibition purposes. My cauliflower were not a success, 300 being killed by the June frost, but of what were left Henderson's showed to advantage.

In celery I had good results, but my experience is not favorable to deep trenching. I have best results by taking out a trench about four to six inches deep, then fill with good rotten manure and mix back about two weeks before planting. I water freely till fit to bank up. After this, watering has a tendency to produce rust, at least that is my experience. With celery there is a lot of work in watering, and to any one growing it only for his own use, I would advise sowing in the open and then thin out, leaving the plants about three inches apart. Let them grow till

frost threatens, then pull and plant them in the cellar, covering with soil or ashes. In this way it will bleach and keep good all winter. Golden Self Blanching, White Plume and Pink Plume are my favorites in the order named.

I was not so successful with tomatoes as in previous years; had far too much vine. They seem not to like too rich soil. The Ruby did best, but shall try them on poorer soil in future. My vines, after showing great promise for fruit, were destroyed with hail early in August.

In citrons, till this hail came, my promise was never so good, but after all I had some very fine specimens. I got better results by planting flat than in hills and only allowing a distance of four feet from plant to plant each way. The more they are crowded the better they fruit, and they are a most profitable crop to grow. Pumpkins and squash were destroyed by the hail.

My success with frame cucumbers was phenomenal, quite a few measuring thirty inches long, and they were thrown out at one exhibition for being overgrown. In preparing soil for frames, I use about a fourth part of well-rotted manure with about a shovelful each of ashes and lime to each plant. Chicken manure is a good substitute for lime, and if the soil is light

plowed, everything being made ready for the seed as soon as the snow goes off. There are two reasons for this. One is that I have a better chance to manure in the fall. To spread manure in the fall and let it lie on the surface all winter holds the frost too late in the spring to admit of early plowing. Another reason is, the chance of early sowing without waiting to prepare the seed bed.

As before noted, I only grew one plot in my garden this year, which gave me the chance to summer fallow the other. This will, I hope, be the means of killing out some weeds that are very hard to kill. I don't think there is any necessity for summer fallowing a garden plot, for, by proper manuring and tilling, it will have no need of rest. Anyway, I shall see next summer whether such is the case.

I have had greater calls for garden stuff this year than ever before, and this will be the case till farmers have time and inclination to grow their own garden stuff. Besides the vegetables already referred to, I may say that I also did well with peas, beans, turnips, lettuce, etc.

Wm. Johnston, Gladstone, Man., Dec. 17, 1900: "The Nor'-West Farmer is well worth the money. Fine paper for farmers."



Ranch Home of C. A. Lyndon, Lyndon, Alta.

it is better than lime. Thorough mixing is essential to success. The large cucumbers above referred to were from English seed.

In potatoes my crop was only middling, but there again I was retarded for a new departure. I had some very fine seed saved on purpose to be cut, but owing to the dry weather I decided to plant whole seed, cutting only a few. I plowed deep, then planted in every third furrow with a hoe and trod down firmly with the foot. As a test I planted some in the furrow and covered with the plow. Result: With whole seed set with the hoe 99 per cent. grew, cut seed, 60; with whole seed plowed in, 55 per cent. grew; cut seed, 20. The largest tubers came from the cut seed, but the weight of yield was largely in favor of the whole seed. No. 7 of my own seedlings did best, averaging about 360 bushels per acre; Rosedale, 300; Beauty of Hebron and Freeman, about 280. I used ten other varieties, some very promising, but this year the potato crop was a failure in this district.

I have come to the conclusion that shallow seeding is a mistake. I planted this year deeper than ever before and always with satisfactory results. (Ed. Query—What about deep seeding in a wet spring?)

In all previous tests I have found spring better than fall plowing, but this fall have

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Fred. West, Deleau, Manitoba, Dec. 10, 1900: "I have taken The Nor'-West Farmer a year now and find it a good paper, with a lot of useful information. Keep right on."

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# 1901

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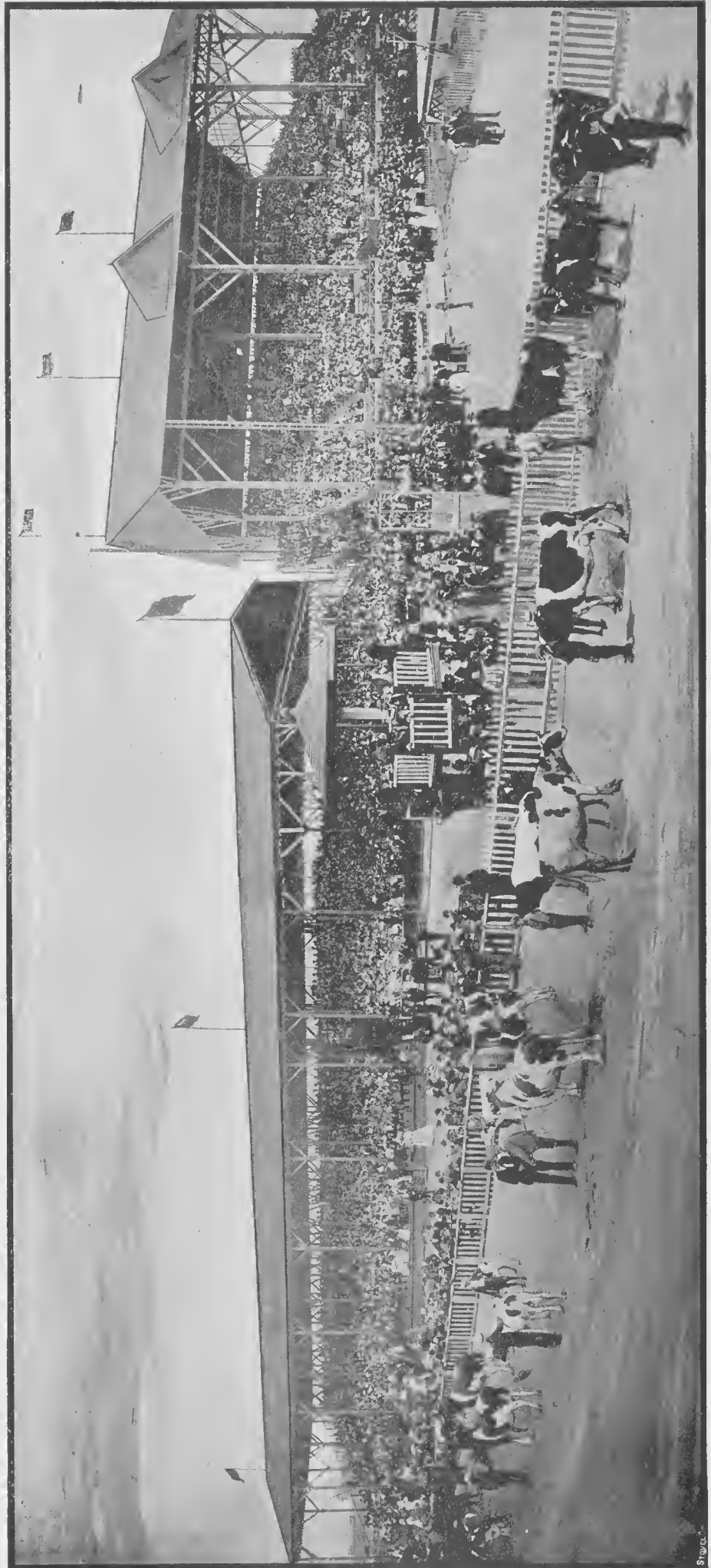
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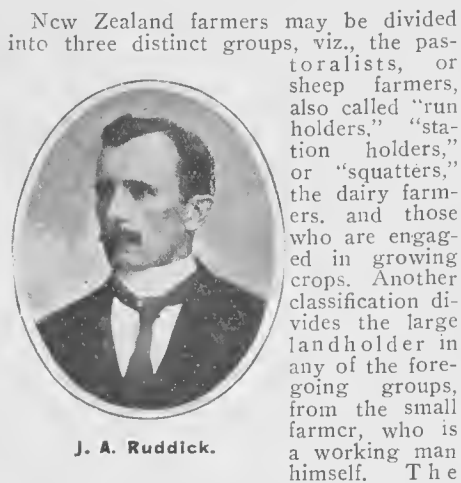
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## Farming in New Zealand.

By J. A. Ruddick,  
*Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.*



J. A. Ruddick.

New Zealand farmers may be divided into three distinct groups, viz., the pastoralists, or sheep farmers, also called "run holders," "station holders," or "squatters," the dairy farmers, and those who are engaged in growing crops. Another classification divides the large landholder in any of the foregoing groups, from the small farmer, who is a working man himself. The latter is called a "cockatoo" and is somewhat despised by the other fellow, who has a sort of idea that he is the "salt of the earth." Class distinctions are rather sharply drawn in this reputed democratic country. There is very little "mixed farming," such as we have in Canada.

### SHEEP FARMING.

Sheep farming may fairly be called the leading industry of New Zealand. There are over 19,000,000 sheep in the colony. During the year ending March 31st, 1900, wool to the value of 4,749,282 pounds sterling, and 3,339,153 carcasses of frozen mutton and lamb were exported. Considerable capital is invested by individual farmers, as some of the flocks number over 100,000 sheep. Anything under 25,000 is considered a small flock. It is said that there is not much money in the business of late years, and at best the profits are not more than interest on the money invested. Much of the land devoted to this branch of farming is extremely rough and hilly, and to a stranger at first glance would appear to be quite worthless. It is astonishing, however, to see the kind of country over which the sheep will graze, and many districts quite useless for any other purpose of agriculture will carry two to three sheep to the acre. In southern districts

where the winters are more severe, it is the practice to grow turnips, into which the sheep are turned during the winter. In other districts they depend entirely on the pasture.

### DAIRY FARMING.

Many of the dairy farmers devote themselves exclusively to the production of milk, and never turn a furrow on their land, simply having it all in pasture. Large herds are the rule and those numbering 100 cows, or over, are quite common. Some, indeed, reach as high as 300 to 400. The whole work of these farmers consists of milking the cows and taking the milk to the factory, or making it into butter or cheese on the farm. On some farms nine to ten hours a day are spent in the milking yard. As the climate is very wet, and the conditions under which the milking is done are very primitive (almost no shelter being provided), it will be readily understood that dairy farming is not looked upon as an ideal occupation. Nevertheless, the industry is growing, and sheep land is being cut up into smaller sections for dairy purposes, mainly because there is no other line of work which will give the man of small means the same return for the labor of himself and family. It is not the object of this article to make any comparison between the state of dairy farming in New Zealand and the same occupation in this country, but I would just like to say, that Canadian dairymen have no reason to feel envious of their contemporaries at the Antipodes, either on account of the financial returns from their work, or because of any supposed climatic advantages.

### GRAIN GROWING.

The physical features and climatic conditions of the country are such that the growing and harvesting of grain crops is practically restricted to a limited area in the south and east portions of the middle island. The principal varieties of cereals grown are wheat and oats, with some pease and barley. The total crop is sufficient for the local demand, with a small surplus for export. The average yield of wheat per acre is large, running about 24 bushels, but it is only fair milling wheat, being on the soft side. Oats yield very heavy and weigh as much as 40 pounds per bushel. Indian corn is not grown, except in favored localities of the north island. Generally speaking, the climate is too cool, especially at night, for the successful raising of this crop.

The absence of marked seasons such as we have in Canada makes a great difference with the farm work. Plowing may be done at any time of the year, seeding is extended over a lengthy period and harvest time the same. Many of the farmers get all their work done by contract and do not have an outfit of their own.

### FRUIT GROWING.

Practically all the fruits of the temperate zone are grown in New Zealand, but apples, pears, peaches and grapes do not show the superior qualities of Canadian fruit. It may be because they have not yet secured the varieties best suited to the climate. Small fruits do very well, except strawberries, which are coarse and flavorless, compared with ours. Good lemons mature in the north, so also does the delicious passion fruit.

### CLIMATE.

As the climate of any country has an important bearing on its agriculture, a brief reference to that feature may not be out of place. The climate of New Zealand, as a whole, is neither as hot nor as cold as it is in Canada. It more nearly resembles the climate of Victoria than any other part of Canada, but the weather is more boisterous and changeable than that of the Pacific coast. The highest temperature recorded at Wellington in 1899 was 76 degrees, while the lowest for the same period was only one degree below the freezing point. As Wellington is situated in the centre of the country, these extremes are a few degrees greater in the north and south respectively. Judged by the standard of temperature alone, the climate would appear to be a very desirable one, yet to a Canadian it is sure to be disappointing. We have in Canada a much larger proportion of really fine days, and the dry, crisp frosty weather of our winter is much more agreeable and enjoyable than the raw, wet, windy weather of the New Zealand winter, made doubly unbearable by the antiquated and wholly inadequate methods employed for heating houses and other buildings.

W. F. Crosbie, Manitou, Man., Dec, 10, 1900:—"I notice that my subscription to The Farmer is just about due, and as I think it is quite indispensable in my home, you will find renewal subscription enclosed."



## Prospects for Pork Packing in Northern Alberta.

There is no better district for mixed farming in the whole Northwest than the one tributary to Edmonton and Strathcona.



C. Gallagher.

Stock raising is bound to be a success in whatever way it is tried, for feed, being easily grown is relatively cheap. Recognizing the great adaptability of this district for pork raising, the Territorial Government last spring imported a number of capital breeding sows, which were sold by public auction to farmers desiring to improve the quality of their pork production. By judicious management, a rapid improvement can in this way be made in the quality and amount of pork produced in this fertile district. Already two enterprising firms are shipping out to the Kootenay and other B. C. districts all the pork the district can furnish. Pat. Burns, Calgary, does a very heavy trade in all sorts of butchers' meat, and the recently formed Gallagher-Hall Packing and Meat Co., which devotes special attention to pork curing, has a first-rate curing plant capable of handling all that the country can produce for many years to come. Mr. Gallagher, the resident partner of the firm, is an old-timer in the west, and before set-

ting in Edmonton had extensive experience in the east. He is a son of P. Gallagher, the well-known Winnipeg butcher, and served an apprenticeship with Squires & Co., of East Cambridge, Mass., then one of the leading pork curing firms in the U. S. He also spent some time in the employ of both Swift and P. D. Armour at Chicago, and after a few years in Winnipeg, began business in Battleford, from which he moved to Edmonton, where he has an extensive butchering business. He bought about 60 acres of land at East Edmonton, south of the river, on which he has a large abattoir and cold storage warehouse. On these premises the recently formed company are doing a business in pork curing limited only by the number of hogs the farmers can supply. Its nearness to the best B. C. markets gives this business a great advantage over all other Canadian sources of supply and enables them to offer first rate prices for all the hogs the surrounding country can raise.

The country is settling up very fast indeed, and as many of the new comers are from the States, where pork raising has been a prominent feature in farming, it may be confidently expected that pork production will have a large amount of attention given to it. It requires no prophet's vision to foretell that this district will in a few years be known as one of the main sources of pork supply for all the country west of the Rockies.

G. B. Cullerne, Birtle, Man., Nov. 21, 1900:—"As I am like a great many more in this part of the province, suffering from the effect of a bad crop, it behooves me to look at every dollar before I spend it, but I do not want to miss my Nor'-West Farmer, which, by the way, should be in the hands of every farmer."

## Fall Wheat Culture.

By C. Kettles, Pincher Creek, Alta.

I have been growing fall wheat with unvarying success for the last ten years, having threshed from 40 to 63 bushels per acre, according to the season.

My custom has been to summer fallow the land, plowing deeply in June once, cultivating weekly with a disc harrow afterwards. I sow between the middle of July and the middle of August, so as to get a strong growth and a good root. I find it makes no difference whether we have snow to cover it or not, as the rank growth of wheat itself is sufficient mulch.

I favor eating it down a little in the fall if it is altogether too high, and in fact it is surprising how much eating down it will stand and still make a good crop, but I find if it is eaten down to the ground it will not give so large a yield, nor ripen so early. It ripens between the 20th of July and the end of August, according to the season. I have never treated the seed with any kind of smut preparation, yet I have never seen a grain of smut, although spring wheat grown in the same field alongside has been half or more smut. I find Dawson's Golden Chaff to be the best variety for this country.

I have experimented thoroughly with fall wheat and find it to be the safest, hardiest and surest crop we can grow in this district, as well as giving the greatest yield and being entirely free from smut. Besides, it gives the farmer a further advantage in the way of time, and is a sure way of cleaning weedy, dirty or wornout land. The plowing and seeding being done after spring crops are in and before haying commences, gives him time to haul his manure and clean up generally, in fact, I cannot over-recommend it.

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Saw,  
Conquered.

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## Weeds in 1900.

By Dr. Jas. Fletcher, Entomologist and Botanist, Dominion Experimental Farms.

"It's the exception which proves the rule" is a trite saying, which is often misapplied or the meaning of which is missed. An exceptional occurrence frequently draws our attention to what we may not or would not have noticed but for the exception to the general rule. We have many advantages or disadvantages that we do not notice till we lose them. Farmers in Manitoba and



Dr. Jas. Fletcher.

the Northwest have now had so many years of bounteous crops that they were beginning to think that these would always come year after year, and some of them had neglected to take regularly the steps necessary to secure the best returns by practising only the best methods of farming. The season of 1900 has been a most exceptional one in many ways. The early spring, with an unusual lack of moisture over large areas, followed by actual drought, high winds, late frosts, grasshoppers, and scorching heat in June, followed again by protracted drought, and then by an unusual amount of rain at harvest time, were most adverse to farmers and produced a state of affairs which could only result in an enormous reduction in the crop—a reduction, however, which was far less than was anticipated, owing to the enormous fertility of the soil and the wonderful recuperative powers of the climate which are as characteristic of the west as is the pluck and energy of the settlers.

Perhaps in no branch of farming has this exceptional season been more instructive than in the effect it has had upon the prevalence of weeds this year. Moreover, the unusual amount of rain this autumn caused the germination of many weed seeds, and the whole country was covered with a heavy growth of weeds which will be killed by the winter frosts, thus clearing the land to a very large extent.

The broad statement may be made that to a much greater degree than is usually the case, the best crops were reaped on those farms which were best farmed, where, by the adoption of the most approved methods of farming, the land had been prepared beforehand to do the work expected of it.

The two most important factors towards a heavy crop in the west are clean land and sufficient moisture. The first of these, clean land, can only be secured by constant attention to the various noxious weeds, fighting those most prevalent according to their natural habits of growth, and leaving the soil in the best condition to push on the crop rapidly as soon as the seed is sown. This is secured by cultivating the surface as often as it is safe to do so, seeding down with grass from time to time in localities where the soil is liable to blow, so as to keep a sufficient amount of root fibre in the land to hold it. The second factor, moisture, can only be secured in many districts by summer fallowing at short intervals and by doing this work early and thoroughly.

It cannot be too often repeated that the theory of summer fallowing is to plow land as soon as possible after it has received the moisture of the winter snows

and spring rains, and then to dry up the surface by harrowing so as to produce a non-conducting film of dry soil which will prevent, as much as possible, the moisture from evaporating. All experiments show that moisture evaporates much more quickly from land which is left unbroken than from that which has been plowed and subsequently harrowed. The harrow must be used again two or three times to prevent the growth of weeds which would draw up this moisture required for the next crop and evaporate it through their leaves.

The temptation to summer fallow late is two-fold, viz., to have vegetable matter to plow down, which it is thought will enrich the land, and to reduce work. In the first place, most soils in the west are very little improved by the small amount of humus added by a crop of weeds, and if the weeds have been allowed to grow to any size, they have already robbed the land of far more value in moisture than they can ever return. In addition to this, if summer fallowing were merely done to clean the land of weeds, as some think, an examination of the weeds growing upon stubbles would show that even by June, which is much earlier than many plow down their summer fallows, several of the very worst weeds, such as false flax, stink weed, shepherd's purse, pepper grass, and some others, have already matured their seeds sufficiently for these to grow as soon

4. Weed seeds are present in infested land and ready to germinate in spring as soon as the conditions are favorable, but a farmer's crop cannot start in the race until the farmer sows his seed; thus the weeds frequently outstrip the crop.

5. All crops require food,—sufficient soil air, moisture, light, and space to develop properly; therefore, if weeds get the upper hand the crop must suffer.

6. Weeds rob crops of food, particularly of moisture; they crowd a crop and prevent its development; they give trouble and increase the expense of growing, harvesting, binding, threshing, cleaning, carrying and marketing a crop.

7. Weeds are plants of various habits of growth.

8. To fight a weed, a farmer should know how long it lives, the depth to which it roots, and when it ripens its seeds.

9. All plants can be classified as One-year plants, Two-year plants, or Many-year plants.

10. If weeds, which live only one year or two years are prevented from forming their seeds, they must die out and leave the land clean, unless other seeds are brought in.

11. Many-year plants root either deeply or near the surface.

12. For deep-rooted many-year plants plow deeply and prevent them from forming leaves, with which they feed.



Farm Home of Geo. P. Loree, Roland, Man.

as they are plowed under. Thus in this way land would only become more infested instead of clean.

With regard to the second objection, that early summer fallowing increases work, this must be considered as a matter of business, and it will be found that the small cost of one extra stroke of the harrows, or at most two, is much more than made up by the increased yield and the greater ease with which the land is worked.

As a consequence of the excellent work which has been done of recent years by the Governments of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, as well as the attention persistently directed to the subject by The Nor'-West Farmer, both editorially and by correspondents, the farmers of the west now know pretty well the broad general principles which underlie the successful conflict with our weed enemies. Some of these may be briefly summarized as follows:—

1. All weeds are enemies.
2. Weeds are introduced or native plants, better able to take care of themselves than the plants which we grow as crops, most of which are exotics.
3. As all crops grow from seeds planted by the farmer, so all weeds originate in the first instance from seeds matured upon a plant of exactly the same nature as the weeds themselves.

13. For shallow-rooted many-year plants plow lightly in hot weather, and they will die for want of moisture, which they can only take in by their roots.

14. A weed seed which has germinated and produced a plantlet with leaves, can never germinate again.

### Troublesome Weeds of 1900.

The following weeds were those most apparent in grain fields of the west during 1900:—

**STINK WEED (*Thlaspi arvense*).**—The worst of weeds. The seeds will germinate at any time throughout the season. Mow and burn mature plants. Never plow down plants bearing seed pods. Destroy young seedlings while small by constant use of cultivator and weeder.

**SMOTHER WEED (*Iva axillaris*).**—A low but very persistent perennial, which grows in large patches. It roots deeply and robs soil rapidly of its moisture. Plow in hot weather and cross-plow deeply ten days later.

**SWEET GRASS (*Hierochloa borealis*).**—A deep-rooted perennial with dark green leaves, flowering early in spring. Treat the same as smother weed, being sure to plow deeply.

**HARE'S EAR MUSTARD (*Conringia orientalis*).**

**FALSE FLAX (*Camelina sativa*).**

BALL MUSTARD (*Neslia paniculata*.)  
WILD MUSTARD (*Brassica sinapistrum*.)  
SHEPHERD'S PURSE (*Capsella Bursa-pastoris*.)

LAMB'S QUARTERS (*Chenopodium album*.)

All the above are annual weeds, the seeds of which germinate in the spring, and the plants produce ripe seeds before the end of the season. Some of them, as shepherd's purse, and occasionally false flax and ball mustard, begin to grow in the autumn and live over the winter, ripening their seeds earlier than usual the following year. This shows the importance of summer fallowing early, so that ripe seeds may not be plowed in. For the above, and all annual weeds, early treatment while the plants are small and easily killed is the secret of success. A most beneficial and effective method of subduing these weeds in growing crops of grain is by the use of light harrows and weeder from the time the grain is two inches until it is six inches high. Weeds are destroyed and the crop plants being much deeper-rooted cannot be injured and are much benefited by the cultivation they receive.

RUSSIAN PIGWEED (*Axyris amarantoides*)—This coarse annual is spreading rapidly through the west along roads and railways. I have found it in Manitoba from the Dauphin district down to Emerson, and along the Canadian Pacific railway, here and there, from the Rocky Mountains to Nepigon.

FALSE TANSY (*Artemisia biennis*.)

EVENING PRIMROSE (*Enothera biennis*.)

SMALL-FLOWERED WALLFLOWER (*Erysimum parviflorum*.)

These three are true two-year plants, which may be found abundantly upon almost all summer fallows. As they do not ripen their seeds until late in the summer, their great abundance can only be due to the too late date at which summer fallowing is usually done. Disc harrowing, or deep cultivation of land in autumn or spring will destroy the young seedlings before the flower stems are formed.

Of somewhat similar habits to the above and to be treated in the same way, are:—

PEPPER GRASS (*Lepidium apetalum*), and BLUE BUR (*Echinospermum lappula*.)

BLUE LETTUCE (*Lactuca pulchella*)—A deep-rooted many-year plant, with milky juice and tall stems.

WHITE EVENING PRIMROSE (*Enothera albicaulis*)—Similar in habit of growth to the blue lettuce.

PRAIRIE ROSE (*Rosa Arkansana*.)

The three last named are deep-rooted perennials and have been best treated by plowing deeply in summer and following a week or ten days later with another plowing. Early summer fallowing is also beneficial.

## Why Newdale Creamery has been a Success.

By A. R. Fanning, Newdale, Man.

The Newdale creamery, which is a joint stock association, has been a success for



A. R.

the following reasons, in the order in which they are given: First—the district is naturally adapted for milk and butter production. It is claimed, and we think correctly, that there is no better grazing district in Manitoba than that of Newdale. The prairie is quite rolling,

the soil of the high land being a rich dark loam covered with an abundant growth of different kinds of grasses, and the low places, or sloughs, as they are called, producing year after year a very heavy growth of a tall flat grass which, when cut in the right season and properly cured, makes a hay which for keeping cattle in a healthy, thriving condition during winter, cannot be beaten.

Second—The support given it by the farmers. For this support the farmers deserve the greatest credit. The amount kept off them the first year, 1895, was so large that almost any other lot of farmers would have become discouraged and in future made their own butter. But did they that? No. They said, this is our own creamery. We have practically paid for it, and we will stand by it. This they did almost to a man, and as a result the make increased from 36,000 lbs. in 1895 to 84,000 lbs. in 1900.

Third—The honest, shrewd, and faithful attention given it by the managers. Those entrusted with the management of the creamery have, one and all, done what they could to make the enterprise a success, and, while there have been mistakes made, still every one concerned with it gets credit for having been faithful to the trust reposed in them.

Fourth—The local merchants did not oppose it. The local merchants have very wisely done nothing to encourage the making of dairy butter while the creamery was in operation, having never at any time offered a price equal to that realized at the creamery.

A few remarks by way of details of management might be interesting to those operating other creameries. The hauling is never let by the route, or by the day. It is always let in one contract, at so much for every pound of butter made, the price varying from nine-tenths of a cent for a twelve-mile limit, to one and six-tenths for a fifteen-mile limit, the contractor furnishes his own wagons and gathers the cream of each person twice in the week. The octagon cans are used and as many as ten put on a wagon at once. The butter-maker has always been engaged by the month and as few changes as possible made. The first butter-maker engaged remained in charge one season, the second two, and the third three seasons. For the past season the maker got so much and furnished his own help. This we consider more satisfactory than the association furnishing the help.

In the matter of selling we have always tried to get the butter to the consumer as quickly as possible after being made. The patrons are paid just as soon as the

money can be got out of each month's make. By keeping each month's make separate we make six payments during the season. We are now occupying our new, or second, creamery, one which we believe is up-to-date. We will be pleased to give any party organizing or building a creamery any assistance in our power.

## The Swamp Angels.

Written for The Nor'-West Farmer by an Old Traveller.

While driving through a certain portion of Manitoba on a clear frosty night, and thinking over the great changes that had taken place in the country during the twenty years that had passed since I first knew it, my attention was attracted by sounds other than the tinkling of the sleigh bells. At first I thought it was the yapping of coyotes in the distance, but as I listened it seemed that the sounds were those of human voices, and I could almost make out the words, "Toll, toll the Bell at Early Dawn of Day." Then came "Tim Flannigan's Ball," and again the music changed, and it was "Three Blind Mice," followed by "My Old Grey Mare and I."

Thinking that some house must be near from which the voices came, I paid no more attention at the time, but on meeting a friend from that locality shortly after, I happened to mention the incident, and he assured me that no houses were near the spot I spoke of, and then he narrated the following:—

Many years ago a large section of the country lying back from the river was under water, the home of ducks and muskrats, and in places was of the nature of a muskeg. A small party of surveyors was engaged in running lines for drains through these marshes during the fall and early winter. In this work they suffered considerable hardship, working now in the water, now out of it, until the ice was strong enough to bear them. Their custom was to camp in some sheltered spot near the river, go out late in the morning when the sun was bright, work through the day and then come in early to camp in the evening, and after putting on dry clothes, enjoy a warm supper and spend the evening singing, telling yarns, and so on, till time to turn in. From one of the farm houses which were nestled here and there amongst the trees along the river, a visitor would occasionally drop in to contribute his quota and help swell a chorus with the "Swamp Angels," as these survey boys were called. Their work, however, took them further away from the settlement and after a time they were seen no more about those parts.

There was a story that they had been lost in a muskeg, there was no evidence to that effect, but muskrat hunters came in from time to time with queer stories of having seen strange looking rats. One was described as having its tail marked like a surveyor's picket, red and white, while another was seen with a red and white nose, which suggested the target on a levelling rod. Whether there was any truth in these stories or not my friend would not like to say, and I will leave my readers to decide how the sounds I heard that winter night were to be accounted for.

Geo. C. Hopkins, Stockton, Man., Dec. 12, 1900: "I just started last year taking The Nor'-West Farmer, and I would not be without it now for anything."

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## Needs of Twentieth Century Dairying.

By J. W. Mitchell, Superintendent N. W. Creameries, Regina, Assa.

Thinking over this topic, the needs of twentieth century dairying, recalled to the writer's mind a pleasant hour spent in visiting a large manufacturing establishment some little time since. Among the many complicated machines in the place the one that attracted our attention most was an automatic machine for making a complicated style of thumb-screw. It



J. W. Mitchell, B. A.

carried forward the rod from which the screws were manufactured, formed the thumb piece, neck, head proper, and stem, turning each to a different size, and corrugated or milled the edge of the thumb-piece so as to make it easy to hold. All of this work it did quite automatically, requiring no further attention from any of the factory hands than merely to occasionally supply a new rod, when the old one became consumed—which would probably mean ten to fifteen minutes' attention during the day. The screw, when completed, was very artistic in design, well-finished, and if made otherwise than by an automatic process would have necessitated the employment of a skilled craftsman. But supposing any firm were to attempt to manufacture the same article through any less modern process, and compete with a firm manufacturing it as above, what would be the result? Financial loss would await it, since the cost of manufacture would be too great.

Does the foregoing not illustrate a great fundamental principle in connection with all of our economic industries, viz., that success is largely dependent upon the production of a commodity of maximum quality at as small a cost as possible?

This principle in its application to dairying means that a dairyman, to attain any measure of success, must learn how to produce milk, cheese and butter of prime quality—goods that will command the highest market price—at as small a cost as possible; for profit is the difference between the cost and selling price, and lowering the cost of production increases our profits just as truly as does an increase in the selling price—a fact we often overlook. But a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of dairying and how to apply them, is absolutely essential for any measure of success; and the reason why many engaged in dairying find it an unprofitable pursuit is that their knowledge of it is too limited—they work faithfully enough, but not intelligently or to advantage.

The most successful dairyman is not he who works with his hands alone, even if ever so faithfully, but he who, in addition is a constant student of dairying, a close investigator, observer and reader. I feel, then, that the great need of twentieth century dairying is a more thorough knowledge, by the great rank and file of those engaged in producing milk, of the science of dairying and its adjuncts, and an intelligent application of these principles in everyday practice. In other words, they need a better knowledge of what to do and why they do it, and to practice what they

know. I am a strong believer in knowing the *why* of everything; for then one works much more intelligently, his work becomes much more pleasant, attractive, and profitable, and he is in a position to make independent progress, instead of being a mere machine.

### A FEW PROBLEMS.

Let me mention a few of the problems that confront every dairyman, and with which he should be familiar.

He should investigate thoroughly and ascertain what kinds of foods suitable for dairy cattle can be grown most successfully in his locality, and how best to cultivate and grow these; and again, he should know the best stage at which to harvest them, and how best to store or preserve them. For example, in Ontario and many of the States, they find it best to grow corn extensively, that it possesses the greatest feeding value when harvested at the glazing stage, and that the best form in which to preserve it is as silage; while in most of the Northwest and Manitoba we have not been able, as yet, to make a success of corn growing, but can grow oats and other cereals, Bromegrass, rye grass, roots, etc., most successfully. However, we have much yet to learn as regards the kinds of food that we can grow with success, how

profitably consume; for cows differ widely in this respect. To do this, he must weigh the food and the milk frequently, and make a test of the milk as regards its fat content—no dairy farmer can afford to be without access to a Babcock tester. In this way he not only learns what each cow is doing and how she should be fed, but also is enabled to weed out the unprofitable ones and build up his herd.

Another problem is the care and stabling of the dairy cow. With cold, cheerless, uncomfortable and unhealthy surroundings, and rough usage, an immensity of her heat and energy, and consequently of her food, is dissipated.

We have mentioned and dwelt briefly upon a few of the problems that confront the dairyman. We might mention many others equally important, such as the feeding and rearing of dairy calves, the building up of the dairy herd by selection, care and breeding, the proper care of milk for making cheese and butter of the highest quality, how to utilize the by-products of the dairy to the best advantage in the feeding of calves and hogs and the many intricate problems in the processes of cheese and butter making. We trust, however, that sufficient has been said to impress upon the reader what a broad subject dairying is, what a variety of problems it of-



"And a Little Child shall lead Them."

Baby Marples, Deleau, Man., and her "Pets." Photographed by her father.

and when, and how to harvest them, and the best form in which to preserve them. Again, the dairy farmer must know the food requirements of his animals and have a knowledge of the composition of the foods at his disposal, if he is to supply their wants fully and still not waste food. For instance, it is found that the average dairy cow requires per day, when in full milk, from two to three pounds of protein, or muscle-forming food, for the formation of muscle tissue, the albumen and casein of milk, etc., and from twelve to fifteen pounds of carbohydrates, or heat and energy producing foods, for the production of the heat and energy required, the formation of body fat and the fat and sugar in the milk, etc.; that is, these two chief constituents of the food should be fed in the ratio of one pound of protein to from five to six of carbohydrates. Now, some foods are rich in the one constituent and poor in the other, while other foods are the reverse; and were the feeder to combine his foods indiscriminately he would frequently starve a cow as regards one food constituent while giving her an excess of the other, with the result that she would both fall away in milk rapidly and waste a considerable portion of her food by passing it off undigested. Of course, the intelligent feeder does not follow any rule blindly, but studies the individuality of the cow and ascertains how much food she can

fers for solution, and what need there is for the dairyman to be a student.

### AIDS IN SOLVING THE PROBLEMS.

I would like next to refer to the amount of available information there is upon these subjects. Owing to the increasing importance and the magnitude of the dairy industry, extensive investigations have been conducted at the various experiment stations, in both the old and the new world, for many years past, with the result that a flood of light has been thrown upon dairying in all its phases—experimentalists have worked most faithfully in the field, in the stable, in the dairy, and in the chemical and bacteriological laboratories, and, to-day dairying can truly be said to have been reduced to a science with its fundamental principles well established.

However, it is not sufficient that these truths have been discovered; they need to be known and used. Although investigators, both within and without our experimental stations, have unearthed many truths which in their practical application to everyday dairying can be made of great value, yet the majority of us are quite unfamiliar with them—they are to us little better than a sealed book. When we consider these facts—and they appear to me to be incontrovertable—we must conclude that the most urgent need of present day

dairying is not so much the discovery of new truths as it is a better knowledge, by the great rank and file of those engaged in the industry, of the already established principles underlying successful dairying, and the application of these principles in everyday practice. Let the experimentalist go on experimenting and discovering new truths; but let us aim to spread these truths and add to them our own experience and observations.

I will mention some ways of securing a dairy education:—

1. First and foremost to be a close observer. Take an interest in your work, do it carefully, and observe results closely. Many dairy for years and know little more about dairying when they quit than when they began—they are not students of their work.

2. Obtain bulletins and reports from experimental stations, and in this way add to your own experience the experience of others. Such literature is not used sufficiently.

3. Standard works on dairying and allied subjects should also be purchased and read.

4. If possible, take a course in a good dairy school. The training and the foundation laid for future work are of inestimable value, to say nothing of the ready information gained. I have yet to meet the person who has taken a course at a good dairy school or agricultural college that would part with it for many times its cost.

5. Another great source of information is in attendance at farmers' institute meetings and dairy associations.

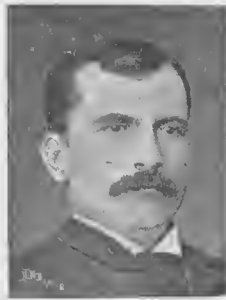
6. Every dairyman should take a couple of good farm journals—say one or two upon farming generally and one devoted to his special line.

Since practically all engaged in dairying are engaged in it as a means of livelihood, we have thus far looked at it and the advantages of a dairy education almost solely from a financial aspect. In closing, I should like to look at it for a moment from another point of view. One of the most important considerations in connection with any vocation is the opportunity that it offers for self-improvement. Since the dairyman is constantly being brought into such close touch with nature through the study that he needs must make of the soil, of plants, of animals, and of milk and its products, and of such subjects as physics, chemistry and bacteriology in their bearings upon the foregoing, there is no other industry the pursuit of which offers a better opportunity for a thorough training, both mentally and morally, than does that of dairying. An industry the engagement in which affords not only the opportunity for earning a good livelihood, but which, besides, furnishes such a wide field for study and investigation as to enable one to thoroughly train his various faculties, is surely a most noble calling, and, when rightly pursued, is bound to prove both pleasant and profitable.

## The Brood Sow.

By J. A. McGill, Neepawa, Man.

It is hard to lay down any set rule for selecting a brood sow, but I think a good



J. A. McGill.

brood sow and a good milker will usually produce sows of the same type, still there are exceptions to this rule. She should have good length, a strong back, broad hams, extending well down on the hocks, standing on good strong legs and be well up on her toes. I like to see her

wide between the eyes. It is a pretty sure sign of a good disposition. Also, see that she has twelve good teats. You will find that a great many of the best brood sows are not show sows, although producers of prize-winning stock, and further, very few of the great show sows are good brood sows. One reason for this, I believe, is that they are not usually bred till from one and a half to two years old, highly fed all this time, and kept in high condition. I consider any sow treated in this way is usually spoiled for breeding purposes, as she will generally prove a shy breeder of small litters. Of course, there are exceptions, but I am speaking of the general rule. A brood sow must have good vitality, and be, as we hear the Shorthorn men say sometimes, "of the milking strain," in order to be a successful brood sow. In fact, she must be a heavy milker, and I find they differ in ability to produce milk just as much as cows do. A sow that will grow fat, no matter how well fed, when suckling a litter of eight or ten pigs, is never a good brood sow. If the little fellows are doing real well, the sow generally becomes pretty thin in a couple of months. Some claim that a heavy milking sow will produce fifteen or twenty pounds of milk in twenty-four hours. This can be pretty closely reckoned by noting the increase in the weight of the litter for that time.

Then, as to management of a sow intended for a breeder. When weaned, she should have plenty of exercise in the first place. She should be fed regularly three times a day. Give her a little skim-milk, if possible, together with finely ground barley and oats, and a little shorts mixed, and feed it in a sloppy condition about as thick as thin porridge. Keep some charcoal, ashes and salt, mixed in a little trough, in a convenient place, where she can go and nibble a little when she wishes. Then see that she has some green food of some kind. Don't feed all flesh-forming food without thinking of the bone required to carry this flesh, and then wonder why your pigs go off their feet. You must feed for bone development as well as for flesh. Give proper feed and plenty of exercise, and you will always have them ready to run to the trough when the feed is offered them.

I read some time ago that if you were to burn 100 pounds of corn you would get 1½ pounds of ash, burn 100 pounds of oats and you would get 3 pounds of ash, and from 100 pounds of bran you would get 5 pounds of ash. So you see you would not be making much bone when feeding corn alone. Then I noticed one of Professor Henry's experiments along this line. He took nine young pigs, divided them into three lots. The first were fed corn and water, the second corn, water and wood

ashes, and the third corn, water and skim-milk. When killed the thigh bones were taken out and broken on a machine for the purpose. The bones of the first lot required a weight of 300 pounds to break them, the second required 700 pounds, and the third lot required a weight of 1,200 pounds. This certainly was a valuable experiment.

You will say I am not sticking to my text, but I want to emphasize the importance of proper feed and care in developing a sow, so as to have her stand on the right kind of "timber," timber which will carry her up no matter how heavy she may become.

When about eight or nine months old, and in good thrifty condition, but not fat, breed her, allowing only one service. Then put her in a pen by herself, away from the other pigs, for about three days, after which allow her to run out as much as the weather will admit, so that she will get the exercise she so much requires. Feed her enough to keep her in good thriving condition, but don't allow her to become too fat; don't feed too much concentrated or heating food. I find a liberal mixture of bran with the grain a good thing; it has a tendency to keep the bowels regular, and will not allow her to become constipated.

When she comes to within a week or so of farrowing time, which will be from 112 to 114 days, put her in a pen by herself, feed her nothing but bran slop, or probably a few roots. Some breeders give a dose of salts at this time, but I have never found that necessary. When fed on bran slop you will seldom have any trouble, nor will she require any help when farrowing. Put a 2x4 scantling around the outside of the pen about ten inches high and about eight or nine inches from the wall. This will prevent her lying down too close and squeezing the little fellows between herself and the wall, as that is usually the way they are killed.

After farrowing, feed only some light slop for three or four days, until the pigs become more able to take the milk; then increase the feed. We hear sometimes of sows eating their pigs; it is certainly a very unnatural thing for them to do, and I feel sure is always caused by some mismanagement at or before farrowing time. There are comparatively few men who know how to feed hogs properly, although some years ago it was not considered that it required any thought, and any man who had not brains enough to do anything else could feed pigs. I remember, when a small boy on my fathers' farm, my work was to feed the pigs, and since I grew to manhood and gained some little knowledge of the importance of proper feeding, I often pity those poor hogs. No wonder there was no profit in them. And while I have given the matter considerable thought and study, I confess I am only in the A, B, C of the business, and if I continue in it for twenty years more, will still have something to learn in swine feeding and management.

Samuel Wilson, Greenway, Man., Dec. 3, 1900: "The Nor'-West Farmer is a splendid paper for farmers. Could not do without it."

R. C. Talbot, Wetaskiwin, Alta., Dec. 6, 1900: "Could not do without The Nor'-West Farmer. It is the best paper of its kind—only \$1.00 a year—and it has saved me several hundreds of dollars in useful information received from its pages."

*E. H. Grove*

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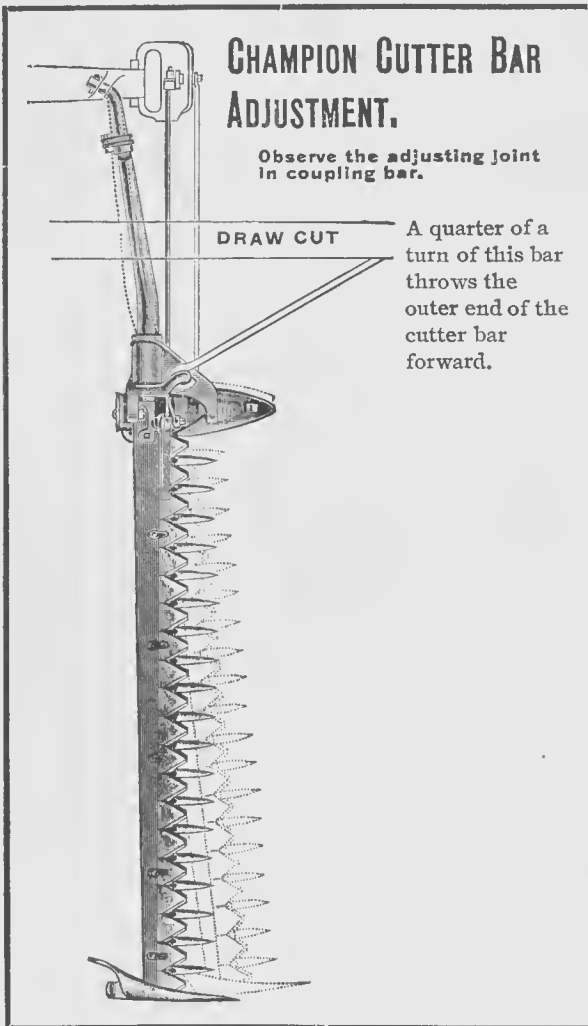
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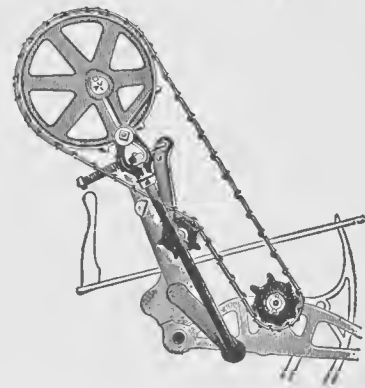
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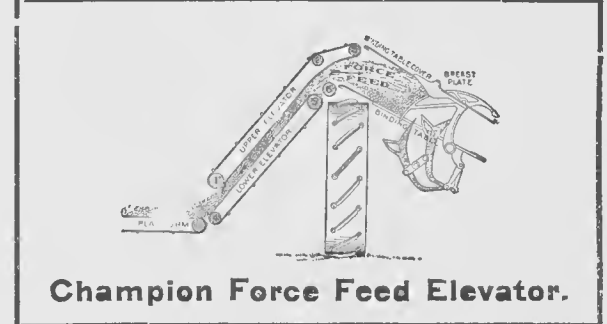
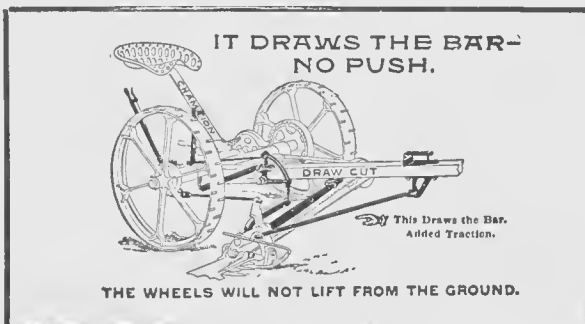
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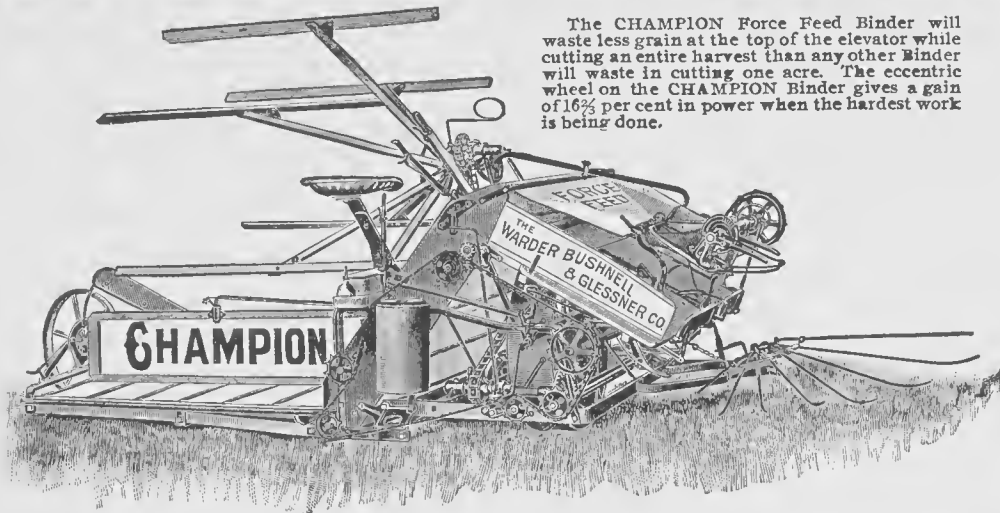
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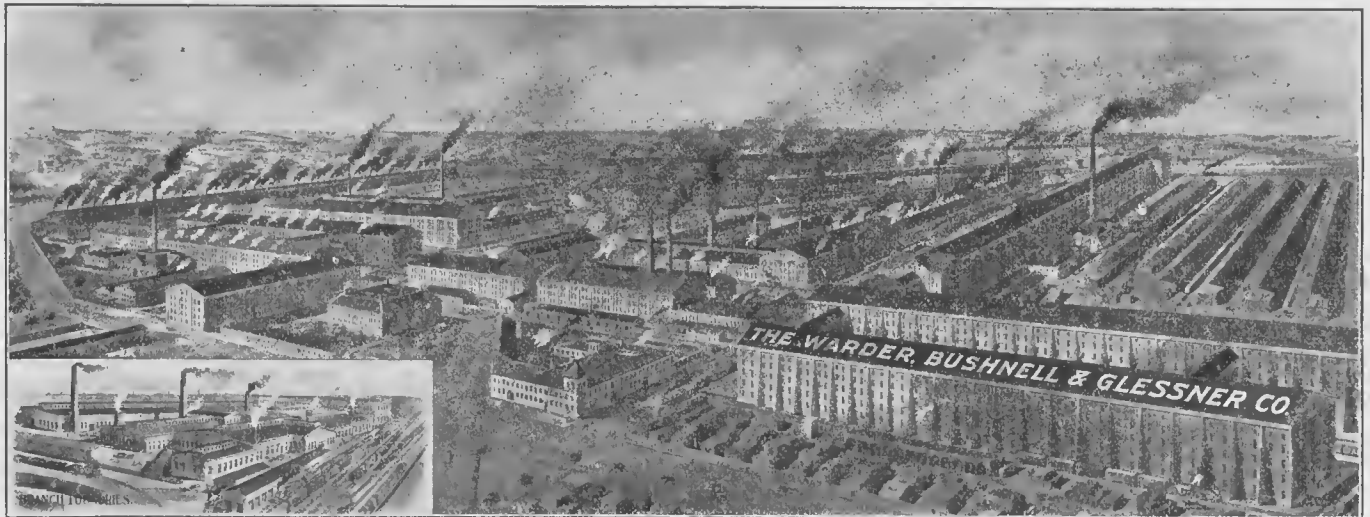
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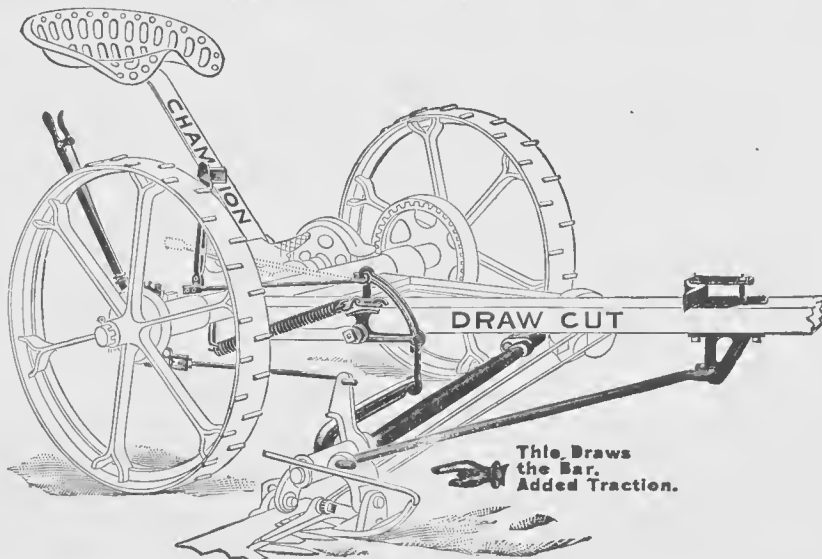
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## The Value of Good Seed.

By Percy C. Gregson, Waghorn, Alta.

At this season, stock having been taken of the results of this year's operations, we begin to speculate on the prospects of the coming year. We hope that the weather will be propitious, rainfall and fair weather at proper seasons, insect pests absent, and everything combining to compensate us for losses sustained this year. To a considerable extent our crops are at the mercy of the elements, and there are other dangers to crops which we cannot avoid; but, on the other hand, there are factors which are quite within the power of every good farmer to control, and one of these I wish to present now, one which is perhaps the most often neglected—the nature of the seed we sow.

A farmer who pays \$3 for a bushel of Brome grass seed, which though weighing 14 lbs., he finds to contain only 50 per cent., or 7 lbs. of germinable seed, is in reality paying at the rate of \$6 per bushel for his seed, for he only gets half a bushel for his \$3. So the farmer who buys a bushel of seed oats at 28 cents, and finds that only three-fourths of the oats germinate, really pays 42 cents a bushel. This is in itself a serious loss,

of its "wings," looks very much like a caraway seed, or a fine bit of broken straw, and could easily escape notice unless anyone were on the look-out for it. I have in mind many other similar cases, but let these suffice. It is true that, here and there there are farmers who are alive to the injury done by the sale of impure seed, yet on looking round over the grain fields in June or July and seeing them yellow with mustards, it is impossible to resist the conviction that the mass of farmers do not realize the extent of the evil, or recognize how much in dollars and cents they, personally, are out of pocket by it. If in buying their seed, they will demand a statement of quality, and purchase only from firms, or individuals willing to give a reliable statement and will pay what pure and good seed is worth, they will get good seed. Haphazard buying is always full of risk to the buyer, and it is no economy to buy low grade seed because the price seems cheap.

I suppose there is no class of seed more easily adulterated than that of *Bromus inermis*. This grass (the awnless Brome), with timothy, is in great and increasing demand in the Northwest, and as is often the case where an article has secured popular favor, counterfeits are also placed on the market. One of the favorite forms or adulteration of Brome

of weed seeds per pound amounted to 990. So that in a bushel of 60 lbs. there would be more than 59,000 weed seeds. In a sample of the flax referred to I found a less proportion of weed seeds, and yet its foulness in mustards resulted in a total loss to the farmer. What therefore must be the quantity of weeds where they amount to two per cent. of the bulk? There would be something like 1,500,000 seeds of weeds per bushel.

The prolific character of weeds is also but little realized. I have recorded the average seeding powers of some of them, and the results are interesting. These results are based on actual counts on conservative averages, and I have no doubt that given favorable environments, many of the totals would be greatly exceeded. Take, first, the hare's ear mustard. Each pod contains 60 seeds, and on a plant pulled almost without selection I counted 100 pods, making a total of 6,000 seeds. Next take the stink weed. Each pod contains 16 seeds. I selected a plant not conspicuously rank and the pods on its branches numbered 1,300, making 20,800 seeds to the one plant. An ordinary plant of the common wild mustard, or charlock, I found to contain 60,000 seeds. A single grain of wild mustard therefore, if unmolested, will in a year start into existence 60,000 more plants equally prolific. The tansy mustards (whose stout woody



Scene on the Ranch of James Hall, Touchwood Hills District, 60 miles North of Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa.

but the balance of the bushel of seed may contain besides dead seeds and chaff a number of weed seeds, and when to the loss through dead seeds is added the loss that is occasioned by the importation of weeds, the amount of injury done to the entire farming community is hard even to estimate. One or two instances will illustrate this point. A thrifty farmer in Alberta bought this spring from a seedsman in the east a quantity of flax seed, and sowed a clean 20-acre patch with it. I looked at this field last July, and it was then crowded with mustards of various sorts, and other imported weeds. This gentleman had no alternative but to plough under the entire crop. In this case, therefore, although the seed merchants did a large trade, they sold impure seed, and the customers sustained in consequence a heavy loss. 1. In the sum paid for the seed. 2. In the time and labor of sowing. 3. In the loss of the use of the land. 4. In the time and labor of ploughing under; and 5. In the introduction of weed seeds on his farm. In another case, a careful farmer had some seed wheat shipped up from a dealer in Ontario. The grain itself was of first quality, but among it, and unnoticed by the buyer, were a number of seeds of the Canada thistle. The result was that this weed established itself in his district—the farmer himself unwittingly importing the weed. The seed of the Canada thistle, divested

grass seed by unreliable dealers is the admixture of chaff, a similar looking seed at first glance. In the case of timothy, the seed may be old, in which event it may be a total loss to the purchaser, through failure to germinate. Nine commercial samples of Brome seed were lately tested by A. J. Pieters, of the United States Department of Agriculture, and showed a variation in the quantity of germinable seed per bushel of from nil of good seed per bushel, which was a total loss to the purchaser, to 12 lbs. 2 oz. of good seed per bushel. In one of these samples (all of which were bought in open market), the seed contained less than 16 per cent. of good seed, the balance of 84 per cent., or five-sixths of the whole sample, consisting of chaff and absolute waste or worse. To buy weed seeds is worse than waste—it is an injury.

Good samples of seed contain so small an amount of weed seeds that they would be considered practically pure. A visit to many elevators, however, will show that many seeds may still be left, even after the farmer has cleaned his grain. Two per cent. of the bulk is not an extravagant statement of the amount of weed seeds often left. But it is surprising, even in the case of very good samples, to see how many weed seeds there really are. Mr. Pieters found that in a sample which contained in all only one-fifth of one per cent. of spurious seeds the num-

bers are so apt to break binders) exceed even this total. There are ten minute seeds in a pod, but it is a plant with many branches (40 is quite a normal number), and bears as many as 1,000 pods to the branch, making a total of 400,000 seeds per plant. The tumbling mustard may actually bear 1,500,000 seeds per plant. These are some of the noxious weeds which perpetuate their species through seeds only.

There are other kinds of noxious weeds which not only seed, but spread also by roots. The Canada thistle is one of them. As to its seeds, it is what is called dioecious, that is, only a proportion—possibly half of the blossoms we see on a plant—produce seeds. The other blossoms (nearly like in appearance to the fertile ones) are the males. About 50 seeds are produced by each fertile blossom, and are scattered by "wings" broadcast over the country. But in addition to this method of propagation, the Canada thistle has a deep running root from which every fall there are produced fresh shoots, like young asparagus in appearance. These remain just under ground till spring, when they start into growth and become a mature thistle. With such weeds about, no wonder an ordinance entitling them "noxious" has been passed.

I will not deal here with the methods of destroying weeds. Excellent government bulletins are freely issued on that

head. I would rather that the evil of impure and poor seed be prevented, by dealing with the source. The farmer has the remedy in his own hands, and as we have seen, even good samples of seed may contain a number of weed seeds, he should not be too quick to lay all the blame of his weedy field on the seedsman. He can, and should always, run his seed through the fanning mill. The time and labor required for this operation will be a good investment, for the man who is known to grow pure seed will always find a ready market. If we cannot obtain the seed we want from a government Experimental Farm, or the C. P. R., we should buy only from firms equally reliable, and then buy only good grades. If we insist on having good seed, the dealers will meet our demand.

So far as noxious weed seeds are concerned, the farmer is armed with a government ordinance which says that no person shall sell any seed (for the purposes of seed) in which there is any noxious weed seed, and there is no reason, therefore, why the merchant should not be asked to guarantee the purity of his seed, or at any rate to state the percentage of quality. Fancy names, such as "choice," "prime," "fair," etc., should be looked on with suspicion; but, if the merchant substitute some such statement as "tested germinable seed 60 per cent.," or 70, or 80, the farmer would know what he was buying, even if the price to be paid seem a little higher than that charged for seed unaccompanied by such a statement. The value of the seed to the farmer depends upon the amount of pure and germinable seed present. It is for this he pays. He does not want the rubbish. The work of testing would involve some little expense to the merchant (besides the warranty), and therefore the farmer should be willing to pay a little higher price for such seed. As a rule the dealer and customer are strangers to each other and it is in such cases that the percentage statement and subsequent test are most desirable.

Two kinds of tests are necessary; one is the purity test—to see that the seed is free from weed seeds;—and the other is the germinating test—to see that the seed will germinate. The germinating test is so simple that every farmer can make it at home. The only apparatus required is a couple of dinner plates and a piece of flannel. First, count the seeds to be tested, then slightly moisten all the flannel (not dripping), and lay it in one of the plates, place the seeds on it, then fold the flannel over the seeds, and cover the whole with the other plate inverted, now set it in a warm place where the temperature at night does not sink below 45 degrees Fahr. In a few days the seeds will begin to sprout. Those that sprout should be removed every day and counted and the number recorded. Wheat, oats, barley, rye and other cereals should be tested for about ten days. Clover and timothy also require ten days. But other grasses need fourteen to thirty days. At the end of the test, the number of seeds sprouted should be compared with the number put in to be tested, and the percentage of germinating seed out of the whole amount purchased will be seen at once. In selecting the seeds to be tested, however, the farmer must be very careful that the sample represents faithfully the entire bulk. He should draw the seeds from different parts of the bag, as the jolting of the car, or wagon, tends to shake the heavier seeds to the bottom of the bag, and the lighter seeds and chaff gather towards the top. The way to get a fair sample is to empty the seed upon a smooth floor, and mix it up thoroughly. Small portions should then be taken from different parts of the heap, and these together make the sample. The value of

the test depends emphatically upon the fairness of the sample.

As to the purity test, in most cases the farmer can tell whether there are foreign seeds in the seed he buys, even though he may be unable to determine the nature of them. In the cases of grasses and clovers, however, the test is not so easy, as certain kinds of grass seeds look very much alike, and so do certain kinds of clover seed, and even in a sample of oats, containing wild oats, some of the wild oats may pass unnoticed. This kind of test can best be made by experts. The Department of Agriculture, or the Experimental Farms, are always ready to test seeds and report promptly on their real value. But the samples sent should never be less than one ounce of the smallest seed and four to eight ounces of the larger kinds. Thimblefuls are worthless as samples for testing.

In conclusion, I would recommend that every agricultural society in the Northwest should form a collection of ripe weed seeds, and of pressed weed plants, for reference. As a start, several agricultural societies have accepted small collections from me, which I hope to add to, also to include other agricultural societies.

## Packing Winter Dairy Butter.

By C. A. Murray, Dairy Superintendent,  
Winnipeg, Man.

How shall we pack our present make of butter is a question with a number of buttermakers and also of some dealers at the present time. If you are sure that your butter is to be sold at retail in Winnipeg, then make it into pound prints, well-made with nice square corners and edges, and wrap it neatly in a good parchment paper. Be sure that you get a good parchment paper, and never under any circumstances use tissue paper, as it is worse than useless and makes an unsightly, unsaleable package.

If your butter is to be shipped, or if you are not absolutely sure that it is to be retailed in Winnipeg, then pack it in a white ash tub with wooden hoops. Be sure you get good tubs, well made and well finished. The tubs should be soaked in a strong salt brine for twenty-four hours, and then thoroughly scalded and rinsed out. They should then be lined with good parchment paper liners, with paper circles for top and bottom. Fill the tub full, cut the top off with a straight stick or a string, turn over the edges of the parchment neatly, place a cloth circle next to the butter, dampen this cloth and sprinkle evenly over the top about an eighth of an inch of salt, and then the parchment paper circle. Fasten the cover on with good tub tins, with proper tacks, and not long nails. Be sure and observe the following facts, and you will have a good package:—

- Be sure to soak the tub in brine.
- Be sure that you get a good ash tub.
- Be sure that you get good parchment paper.
- Be sure and pack the butter well, so as to exclude the air.
- Be sure to fasten the cover on tight.
- Be sure that it looks neat and clean.
- Be sure that you make good butter.
- And you will be sure to get a good price.

Geo. H. Spencer, Birtle, Man., Nov. 29, 1900: "The Nor'-West Farmer binder arrived safe. I am well pleased with it. It is what everyone ought to have who intends to keep The Farmer, as it makes them much handier for reference."

## Shorthorn Cattle.

By A. A. Titus, Napinka, Man.

After breeding Shorthorns for fifteen years with profit, my experience is really more in line with new beginners than that of the larger breeders. Always keeping a dozen or so, I am greatly interested in the young breeders and anxious that they avoid the dangers that I know exist in starting in this, the best and most satisfactory branch of farming.

The beginner should buy a cow, not a heifer. The heifer may or may not develop according to promise, but a four-year-old cow can be bought for what she is. I would not advise a beginner to buy from a farm where much importing and selling is done. A skilful herdsman in such a place can feed and fit heavily, knowing his animal will be sold before any bad effects show. I owned Windsor (imp.) after he had been fitted for three or four years by the Russells, and his stomach was burned completely out. Half a bushel of chop was of no more value to him than so much chaff.

Furthermore, a cow that is so reared as to mature at, say four years, is bigger, stronger, more apt to be fertile, and worth, for keeping purposes, very nearly or quite double what the same cow would be worth if forced and ripened a year earlier.

Beginners, seeing at the big farms and shows the way cattle are fed, sometimes buy blanket and fit, aiming, like the journalist who wants a Christmas number every issue, to beat everybody else. That chap's cattle will go to pieces and he will burn his fingers. The nature of the cow calls for grass, shade, water and liberty a good share of the year.

In choosing a bull, I always get an old one if I can. Nine-tenths of the prize calves fail to hold their lead when mature, many being impotent, or nearly so, and old sires get the strongest stock, anyway.

I once saw a prize-winner at Toronto and Winnipeg with back, shoulder, rib and loin perfect, but whose fine bone and effeminate head and horn is to me, at least, a sign that he never can get strong, sandy stock. The use of big, strong, masculine bulls, like Village Hero, Caithness, Robbie O'Day, or Judge, is safe enough. A bull's head might better be extra heavy, approaching coarseness, like Topsman, for weak calves follow the use of a bull with a heifer's head. Remember, it is easier to breed down than up, and a good big one is better than a good little one. Never let the calf-fat get off the animal. Let your heifers produce at three years. Feed plenty of bran. Never overstock pastures. Use big, square bulls at least 3 years old.

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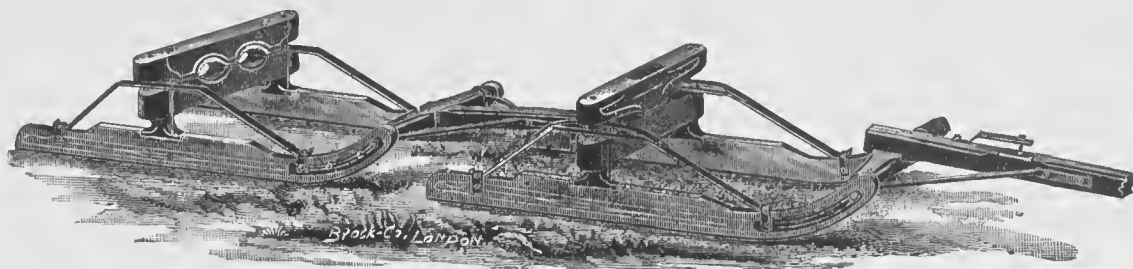
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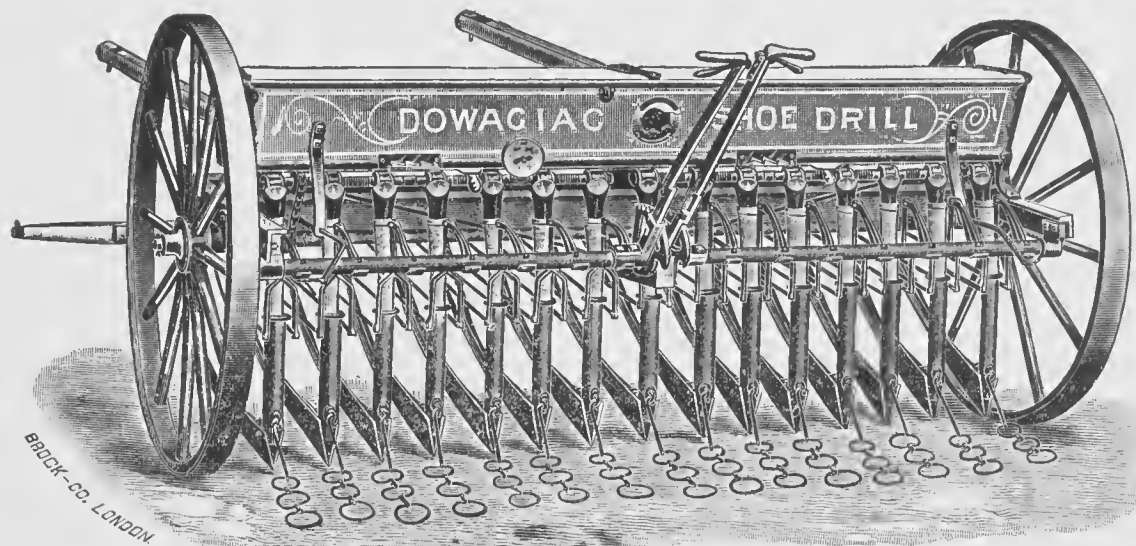
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## LIVE STOCK IMPOUNDED, LOST, OR ESTRAY.

In this department we publish as full a list of the impounded, lost and estray stock of Western Canada as is available. Notice in one issue, not exceeding five lines of lost or estray stock is given free to any of our subscribers who forward information. Notices exceeding above mentioned length will be chargeable at the rate of 10 cents per line on all overplus matter. The list of impounded stock is compiled from reliable sources.

By LOST stock is meant stock that has been lost and the owner advertises to find them.

By ESTRAY stock is meant stock that has wandered on to a person's place, or into his hand, and are advertised to find the owner.

Write the letters of all brands very plainly. Display notices in black-faced type will be given for \$1 (which must be enclosed with the order), such notice not to exceed 40 words.

The following is a list of live stock impounded, lost, or estray since December 5th issue:—

### Impounded.

Bird'e Hill, Man.—One red and white cow, about seven years old, with split in left ear. A. B. B. Garvin.

Bird's Hill, Man.—One steer, color red, horn cut, with split on point of ear, point of tail white. Angus Macdonald.

Blythfield, Man.—One steer, color red, white spot on forehead, white stripe on right side, white spot on left leg, about two years old; also four steers, color white and red, spotted, and one Jersey heifer, color red. R. Greenway.

Bonnie Doon, Man.—Three calves, two red and white steer calves and one roan heifer calf. Wm. Coop, Sr.

Cook's Creek, Man.—One heifer calf, color red, white belly, white star on forehead, white on tip of tail, with a V cut out of each ear, supposed to be about eight months old. D. M. Henderson.

Dugald, Man.—Two helpers and one steer, red and white, no artificial marks, one heifer, three years old and the other two years, steer two years. J. R. Smith.

Elm Valley, Man.—One dark red steer, two years old. Thos. Smith.

Lauder, Man.—One sorrel horse, five years old. R. M. Phillips, 36, 5, 25.

Marquette, Man.—One two-year-old heifer, color white, with reddish legs. A. McMillan.

Meadow Lea, Man.—One steer calf, spotted black and white. J. W. Balfour, 33, 13, 2w.

Middlechurch, Man.—One heifer calf, color light red, with short tail and few white hairs on forehead. J. Taylor.

North St. Andrews, Man.—One grey yearling heifer, no brand or mark visible; also one red yearling steer, with white spot on forehead and piece cut out of right ear. R. Saunders.

Pigeon Bluff, Man.—One yearling steer, black muley, with white spot on forehead, marked on left ear, white over shoulder; one black yearling muley steer, with white head, marked under both ears, branded on left hip; one red cow, about five years old, with white head and white over shoulder, white under belly, not marked or branded. J. Anderson.

Pleasant Home, Man.—One red heifer, about one and a half years old, white face, three white legs, left front leg red down to knee, tail half white from middle down, no visible marks or cuts. G. T. Lerou.

Peplar Point, Man.—One red muley heifer, star on forehead, white spot on hind leg. W. H. Reid.

Peplar Point, Man.—One red yearling steer, with white under belly and white tail, piece cut out of left ear. C. F. Neuman.

Rosser, Man.—One bull calf, dark red. D. McDonald.

Rosser, Man.—One heifer, color red, with white legs and white belly, piece cut out of left ear, small slit in same ear, about eighteen months old. Wm. Atkinson.

Springfield, Man.—One black yearling steer, a little white on belly; one black and white yearling heifer, more white than black, and a slit on point of left ear. S. Parsons.

St. Agathe, Man.—One bull, two years old, color red, white spot on forehead. Levis Duchesneau.

St. Eustache, Man.—One black steer, two years old, with the right ear cut square and the same split. Paul Paul, 34, 11, 3.

St. James, Man.—One two-year-old roan heifer, tips of ears cut or frozen off, no brand visible. H. Else.

Starhuck, Man.—One dark red yearling heifer, with white spots, wire ring in left ear. John Powers, 24, 9, 2w.

Union Point, Man.—One mare, color light sorrel, white face, right hind and right front feet white, about two years old. Geo. McDonald, Lot 488.

Winnipeg, Man.—One bay horse, shod on front feet, white spot on forehead; also one bay mare, shod on front feet, white spot on forehead and nose and white spot on right side; and one cream-colored mare, white spot on forehead, with dark mane and tail. W. Loveday, Lot 3.

### Lost.

Belcourt, Man.—One red bull calf, strip of white across forehead. E. E. England.

Broadview, Assa.—One yearling red steer, dehorned, with white on forehead, branded F2 on right ribs. A. E. Cornish, 12, 15, 5w2.

Clover Bar, Alta.—One yearling steer, red and white, white from hip to hoof, branded T 9 K on right hip near rump. \$5 reward. J. B. Adamson.

Coteau, Assa.—One bull calf, six months old about Nov. 10th, red, with a few white hairs on right side. C. Hildebrand.

Dauphin, Man.—Three calves, one is a red steer and the other is a red and white steer, and blue colored heifer calf. Roht. McLean.

Deloraine, Man.—Two geldings and mare, one of the geldings chestnut, white hind feet, left ear short, shod in front, other gelding black, hind in one eye, mare bright bay, with large W on left shoulder. Duncan McDougall.

Edmonton, Alta.—One mare, with white face, branded 2 L on left front shoulder. Thos. Astleford.

Glen Adelaide, Assa.—One two-year-old black colt mare, one hay mare, three years old, both with heart brand on hip; one black mare, five or six years old, branded N X G T or Y; and a little black colt with this mare, also branded. \$10 reward. Ebenezer Coult.

Grenfell, Assa.—One red and white cow, dehorned. N. Hobson.

Holland, Man.—About Oct. 10th, two spring calves, one red steer, one red and white heifer, both dehorned. Thos. Sanderson.

Lauder, Man.—Two black sow pigs, about one and a half years old. Reward. V. E. Casselman, 2, 5, 24.

Leduc, Alta.—One dark brown stallion, two years old, weight 850 lbs., branded LP on right shoulder, one white hind foot, mane cut short. L. P. Emery.

Middlechurch, Man.—One yearling steer, color red roan, white star on forehead, well bred Shorthorn grade, no marks. Suitable reward. H. O. Ayeart.

Minto, Man.—Three calves, two red, with a little white, one roan, which is the smaller of the three. Frank Calkins, 13, 5, 20.

New Lunnon, Alta.—One hay mare, white stripe on face, white hind feet; one bay pony, branded M on right hip, J and G inside of diamond on left hip, should have colt with her. John Schofield, 30, 59, 23.

Oak Lake, Man.—Three spring calves, one dark red steer, one light red steer, one red heifer with some white on tail. T. R. Todd, 2, 11, 23.

Oak River, Man.—One dark bay broncho mare, 7 yrs. old, 14½h., mane clipped, fore feet shod; one dark bay blood gelding, 3 years old, 16 hands, fore feet shod. \$10 reward. W. W. Hays.

Plumas, Man.—One red steer, one year old this month, three small white spots on forehead. Was lost about harvest time. Fred S. Brown, 16, 16, 13.

Regina, Assa.—A black pony mare, star on forehead, branded on left shoulder, about eight years old. W. C. Martin, 32, 17, 18.

St. Claude, Man.—On June 28th one steel grey horse, six years old, 15½ hands, branded united 7U on left shoulder. \$5 reward for information leading to recovery. J. P. Bernier.

Stonewall, Man.—One roan heifer calf. When it left home it had a rope on its neck. Arthur Mollard.

Stonewall, Man.—One two-year-old draft filly, black, with white star on forehead and white on inside of one hind foot. \$10 reward. Jacob Scott.

Strathcona, Alta.—One red and white cow, about six years old, large horns, branded W on ribs on both sides. William Walker.

Teulon, Man.—One bay mare, rising four years old, white stripe down face, one hind foot white. \$10 reward. W. C. Ross, 4, 16, 2e.

Wavy Bank, Man.—Three black muley yearlings, one steer and two helpers. Abe Sutherland.

Whitewood, Assa.—\$20 reward for two geldings, colts of 1897, branded A over C on right hip. They have strayed or been stolen. A. Cowan.

Winnipeg, Man.—One Clyde horse colt, dark bay, heavy built, coming three years old, white star on forehead. \$10 reward. W. Dixon, care Nor-West Farmer.

Winnipeg, Man.—About 14 months ago, from near Stonewall, one steel grey gelding, 1,100 lbs., four years old, branded W. S. on left shoulder; one bay gelding, 1,050 lbs., about six years old, branded diamond on left jaw, big white star on forehead. \$10 reward for information leading to recovery. J. J. Costello, Brunswick Stables.

### Estray.

Beaumont, Alta.—One dark red cow, with white spot on forehead and white on end of tail, no brand, short horns. John Maure.

Boggy Creek, Assa.—One three-year-old steer, spotted red and white, branded with spur on right ribs. Jos. J. Wallman.

Crooked Lake, Assa.—One red steer, white forehead, white belly. Simeon Couchner.

Dugald, Man.—One black heifer, two years old, white star on forehead; came to my place early in summer, no brand or marks. E. Auderson, 36, 10, 5e.

Edmonton, Alta.—One red cow, branded on ribs with indistinct W. Jamez Hudson.

Edmonton, Alta.—One dark muley cow, large white spot on forehead, hind leg mostly white; one red cow, with white spots and white back, about seven years old. Tails of both cows have been clipped square at end, both gentle, no brand on either. James Cram, 20, 54, 23w4.

Elgin, Man.—Three calves. M. Wilson, 14, 5, 21.

Glenlyon, Man.—A medium sized red cow, left horn turned down and point broken off, short tail. James McCurdy, 22, 21, 22.

High Bluff, Man.—One red and white steer, two years old. M. H. Owens.

Indianford, Man.—One light bay colt, rising three years, white star on forehead; two yearling steers, one red and one black. Geo. S. Deif, 10, 9, 3.

Killarney, Man.—One black horse. B. Cook, 24, 4, 17.

Macdonald, Man.—One hay pony colt, with short tail. Geo. Johnston.

Oak River, Man.—Two helpers, coming two years old; also one brown mare. Owen Sawzer.

Pilot Mound, Man.—Red cow, with calf. T. J. Balfour, 32, 3, 11.

Rathwell, Man.—One yearling heifer, color red, white hind leg and white star on face. David Keast, 16, 8, 8.

Saltcoats, Assa.—One red heifer, age 1½ years, since August, branded right ribs, H V 8. R. H. Mason.

Sidney, Man.—Bull, coming two years old. Robert Hall.

Sidney, Man.—One heifer, two years old, red and white. S. James.

Stony Mountain, Man.—One red yearling heifer; one red and white yearling heifer. David B. French.

Wallace, Assa.—One spring heifer calf, red. Peter Weinmeister, 22, 27, 2.

Yorkton, Assa.—One white yearling heifer, with lump on jaw. Thos. Goodchild, 34, 25, 3.

Yorkton, Assa.—One red yearling steer, tag on left ear; two heifer calves, red. Frank Caldwell, 34, 26, 4.

## STRAYED.

From my premises last spring, a four-year-old mare, bright bay with star and narrow stripe on face and white ring close to hoof on high hind foot. I will give a reward of \$10 for information which will lead to her recovery.

SAM: WEBB, Stonewall P.O.

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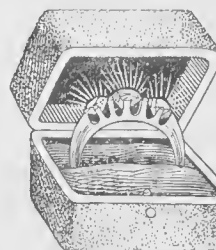
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# THE NOR'-WEST FARMER

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The Only Agricultural Paper Printed in Canada  
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WINNIPEG, DEC. 20, 1900.



## A CHAT ABOUT RENEWALS.

We've referred to our splendid offer for next year once or twice already, but there are a few things which are worth repeating, and this is one of them. If you haven't read our announcement before, you should jump at the chance now; and if you have, why read it again—and *then act!*

It would be commonplace for us to say that The Nor'-West Farmer is away in the lead as a farm paper for this country. We could name several departments, any one of which is worth the price of the paper; departments, too, many of which are distinctively our own. And we mean to add more!

Our offer seems to meet with favor on all hands. Already renewals are crowding in on us, and new subscriptions are coming in in such numbers as to surprise even ourselves! But we want to have a renewal from *every old subscriber this year*, if possible. How is your subscription? Perhaps it needs attending to *at once*. If you have already done so, give The Farmer a lift by making our paper known to any who are not now subscribers.

## TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

We wish to apologize to nearly 1,000 new subscribers, who have sent in their subscriptions to The Nor'-West Farmer since the December 5th number was issued. We printed several hundred extra copies of that issue, which we deemed sufficient to enable us to send every new subscriber a copy as soon as their subscriptions were received, but the supply only lasted a few days. We did not count on receiving so many new readers this year, or we would have made provision for sending them each a copy of our last issue. We are sorry that we miscalculated the number of new subscribers, but it is gratifying to know that our efforts to put out a good up-to-date farm journal are being appreciated. Every new subscriber will get a copy of our Christmas number, and we have issued a limited number, which

will be sent free to new subscribers as long as the supply lasts. To non-subscribers and those of our readers wishing an extra copy we will mail same on receipt of 25 cents each.

## ONE CENTURY GOES, ANOTHER COMES.

In a few days the year and the century will have closed, and the twentieth century dawned on the world. The century now closing has been a wonderful one. Scientific discovery and mechanical invention have gone hand in hand, with results that have partially reached the darkest and most uncivilized regions on the face of the globe. The spread of the Anglo-Saxon race within that period has been one of its most wonderful features. At the beginning of the closing century, England, having lost the larger portion of her American colonies and not one-fifth as powerful as she is to-day, was fighting single-handed against the virtual master of the destinies of Europe. Australia was only a penal colony and "Botany Bay" a name of fear. Canada had less real vitality than the Province of Manitoba has to-day, and the great country between the Red River and the Rockies was a "Great Lone Land." For the last thirty years of the century this great lone land has been developing in a way to surprise all but the very few who had some faint idea of its future possibilities. We are only now beginning to get an idea of its resources and the great future opening up to the country which is the special field of The Nor'-West Farmer's work. Mineral wealth undreamed of only a few short years ago has been already partially revealed both east and west of us and rapidly as the surface is being utilized in the production of the most valuable kinds of human food, the bowels of the earth are being as zealously searched for the minerals that in all generations and every clime have been regarded as the source of potential wealth. Our coal mines are as important as those of silver and gold. Both together will be the means of providing a sure and profitable home market for a large share of our agricultural produce. For all who are now here, as well as for every capable and industrious immigrant who may seek a home in our midst, the outlook is under Providence one that we may well look forward to with gratitude and most hopeful anticipation.

Last, but not least, the closing year of the century has furnished an opportunity of demonstrating to the world how staunchly the old Lion's whelps love and revere the mother land. Among the brightest achievements of her armies in Africa and those regarded with fondest pride are the gallant and tireless efforts of the sons of the Empire, who, from India, Australasia and the Canadian Dominion have so eagerly taken up the quarrel and fought the battles of the dear old Motherland.

## OUR BUTTER INDUSTRY.

In the last issue of The Farmer we promised to say something about the butter industry of the Province of Manitoba. The first point that strikes us is the tendency to concentration in factory work. Railroad transportation on a satisfactory basis has been arranged for and promises to be of much advantage to the country. Instead of having a number of small creameries struggling for existence, it is now possible to collect cream into a few factories with first-class equipment, in which, at a smaller relative cost a larger quantity of cream can be manipulated by

first-class makers, and a superior article turned out, specially fit for the export market. The Fairplay creamery at Pilot Mound is a gratifying example of a small local industry that has steadily grown in favor with its local supporters, and in the quantity of its output. Clean cream, first-rate equipment and careful handling, combined with good business management, have built up for this factory an enviable reputation, and its output sells at the highest price on outside markets. We have no doubt that by a freer use of railroad facilities in collecting cream this, or any other factory similarly conducted, will bring steady profit to its proprietors and credit to the province.

Home dairy butter, if the quality of the exhibits at most of the local shows is a proper criterion, has made a very general improvement in recent years. Farmers' wives who made good butter before the advent of special dairy teaching have been stimulated to avail themselves of the benefits of modern dairy science, as taught in dairy bulletins, and spread broadcast by such papers as our own Nor'-West Farmer, and more in detail to a limited number in our dairy school. Improved dairy appliances are selling rapidly and everything goes to show that home buttermaking is decidedly on the road to a high degree of excellence.

There are serious defects in the condition of a portion of both factory and dairy butter that call for immediate attention and well-directed remedial action. The difficulty is to locate accurately the blame for those dark blots on our reputation. In one case here referred to some months ago a very discreditable lot shipped to the west was traced to a country dealer in the Territories. It would be a great help if, without undue officiousness and great expense, some plan could be devised of fastening the responsibility for all such stuff on the actual shipper and not on the country at large. Compulsory stencilling of the name of the shipper upon every export package is one way to deal with this trouble, and it would be well within the field of the Dominion governmental legislation if a measure of this sort could be introduced at an early date.

The reputation and, of course, the money value of our home dairy product is, we believe, suffering severely from the manner in which it is handled after it leaves the hands of the actual maker. Butter of choice flavor for immediate consumption is, for that very reason perhaps, poorly fitted for long keeping. But the average local buyer sees no such distinction. He collects a lot of all sorts, stores it as well as he knows how, sometimes stores it very badly, and the lot is shipped off wholesale to some jobber, who averages up the lot and ships his collections east or west, taking what he can get for it. This is a ruinous method of handling a product so delicate and susceptible to varying injurious agencies as butter.

It is doubtful if dairy butter can ever become a success on the outside market, and the great and growing expansion in its production will, we fear, be checked by the special difficulty of handling it properly after it is made. Time and the law of "the survival of the fittest" will, in the long run, decide how we shall apportion the amount of attention to be given to factory production and how much to home dairying for immediate home use.

That the Province of Manitoba is making more butter than ever before, and and much of it of high excellence is, we think, indisputable, and the probabilities are for its free growth and all-round improvement in the years to come. The go-cart system of aiding small local factories, as introduced a few years ago, has left few good results worth speaking of, and most of the factories have gone to the lumber

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OUR LIGHT PORTABLE SAW MILL  
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pile. Butter making on a sound commercial basis is the only thing the government and people of this country are concerned in supporting. For profitable export business larger factories, with first-class equipment, operated by men in whose skill and integrity the factory owners and patrons, the local jobbers and the ultimate consumers can have permanent confidence are the only means by which Western Canada can build up and maintain a profitable trade on the outside markets.

### A BREEDERS' DIRECTORY.

Last spring the Live Stock Commissioner for the Dominion issued a circular letter to every breeder of pure bred stock whose name he could obtain, asking for particulars regarding his herd or flock. Many breeders have not responded to this request, and so it has been found impossible to get out this directory. Every breeder should fill out the blanks sent him and forward them at once. We need to improve the quality of our live stock, and the quickest and surest way to do this is to introduce pure bred males. More pure bred males should be used everywhere throughout the whole Dominion, and the object in getting up this directory of breeders and what they breed is to facilitate the sale of stock by bringing the buyer and seller into touch with one another. The breeders' associations have greatly increased the facilities for shipping animals purchased singly or in small lots. Now the object is to facilitate the sale of stock by making known in the widest possible way who has stock for sale. Therefore, it has been decided to issue a directory of the Canadian breeders of pure bred stock in each province, arranged alphabetically, giving suitable data concerning each stud, herd and flock. When this work is completed it will contain the names and addresses of all Canadian breeders of pure bred stock as far as these can be obtained, and a business directory of the "stock for sale" as furnished by each. A copy of this pamphlet will be sent to all the principal breeders and ranchers in Canada whose names can be obtained, to the secretary of each Farmers' Institute, Fair Association and Live Stock Association, and to a large number of American ranchers and stock breeders. It is intended to have this bulletin revised and issued in the month of June each year.

Any breeder who has not received a copy of this circular letter, or who has mislaid

the copy sent him, can secure another by addressing a line to F. W. Hodson, Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa, Ont. No postage is required; write on the corner, where the stamp is usually put, O.H.M.S. It is not the intention of the commissioner to leave out any breeder of pure bred stock whose name he can obtain, but if breeders are too careless to fill out the blanks and put them in the post office, they have themselves to blame if their names are not on the list.

### THE CROP BULLETIN.

The usual December crop bulletin has been issued by the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, but owing to the amount of special matter that has accumulated for our Christmas number, a summary of the bulletin has been held over for the January 5th issue.

—E. Stewart, Chief Inspector of Timber and Forestry for the Dominion Government, is attending the meeting of the American Forestry Association at Washington, to gather information regarding the working of forestry problems in the U. S.

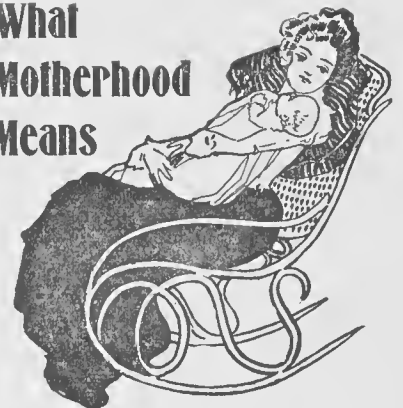
—At Qu'Appelle Station the other day some farmers, who had been annoyed by town cows tearing open their grain bags when standing round town, had the offenders run into the pound. "Served them right." Rustling within reasonable bounds is a valuable accomplishment for a cow, but she is liable to get too clever.

—The majority of the agricultural societies have held their annual meetings and elected their officers for the coming year. Most of them will go in for institute work the coming winter, and have meetings addressed by local speakers, in addition to those sent out by the government. The Manitou society proposes to take special measures for the introduction of a heavy draft stallion in the coming season.

—The Farmer is sorry to note the serious fire which took place at the Iowa Agricultural College on Dec. 8th. The main building is four stories high, and the fire started in the basement. There were 300 students in the dormitories above, and they only reached the ground in safety by means of the fire escapes. They lost all

their belongings. A valuable botanical collection valued at \$20,000 was also destroyed. The loss on the building is over \$100,000, but the interruption to the teaching work of the season is perhaps the most serious outcome of the fire.

### What Motherhood Means



Motherhood means either happiness or misery. There is scant happiness for the mother, who in pain and weakness brings into the world a weakling babe which she can neither nurse nor nourish.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription fits women for motherhood. It strengthens the maternal organism. It tranquilizes the nerves, encourages the appetite and brings refreshing sleep. It makes the birth hour practically painless and gives the mother the nourishment to give her child.

There is no alcohol in "Favorite Prescription," and it is absolutely free from opium, cocaine, and all other narcotics.

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Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, in paper covers, is sent free on receipt of 31 one-cent stamps to pay expense of customs and mailing only. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

When writing advertisers, mention The Farmer.

## MARKET REVIEW.

Winnipeg, Dec. 24, 1900.

The mild spell of weather has about destroyed the sleighing and a good fall of snow is much needed to improve the roads. The deliveries of wheat are very light. When we consider that 6,000,000 have been graded already and that fully 3,000,000 bushels will be needed for seed alone, besides enough for bread, it will be seen that the amount of this year's wheat in the country cannot be large. Of course the wheat that has been graded is not all Manitoba grown, and no doubt some of it is old wheat. Farm produce, especially poultry and butter is coming forward in much larger quantities than usual. The Christmas trade has been very good and a most peculiar thing about the local trade in Winnipeg is that the jewelers are doing the best Xmas trade. Dry goods stores are doing nicely, but it is a cheaper line of goods that is in demand this year than usual. Stationers are not doing two-thirds as well as they did last year, and grocers are complaining that their trade is very slack. The cheap fares on the railroads has resulted in a very heavy traffic to the east.

## Wheat.

The world's markets are hovering along at about the same level as for a month past, with trifling daily variations. Chicago opened on Saturday, Dec. 22nd, at 69¢c. and closed 4¢c. better. On the local market so little business is doing that quotations are nearly nominal. At Port Arthur No. 1 hard is quoted 75c. to 76c. Most of the local elevators will soon shut down for want of business, and the mills will do most of the huying for the rest of the winter.

For the week ending Dec. 21 the Winnipeg inspections were as follows:—2 hard, 22 cars; 3 hard, 72; no grade, 143; other grades, 15. Total, 254. About 6,000,000 bushels have already been graded. Of oats, barley and flax 15 cars were graded.

## Oats.

The same stagnation prevails here as in other cereals. Little doing and the local quality is very poor, going price about 30¢. Better quality runs 34¢. and 35¢.; one choice car went 36¢. The best at Edmonton are showing a soft kernel, due to lack of sufficiently dry weather at the end of the season.

## Barley.

Barley is also a very short supply and a nominal business, at 34 cents for 48 lbs. At this figure it is the cheapest feed going and farmers are holding it at home for that purpose.

## Flour and Feed.

Everything stands as at last quotations.

## Horses.

The market is very quiet, with but little doing. It is reported that in some cases farmers are offering some of their horses for sale, as they are short of feed, preferring to buy again in the spring than to buy feed.

## Cattle.

Aside from the demand for Christmas beef, the cattle market stands the same as at our last report, the price ranging from 23 to 32¢c. according to quality. The demand for the Christmas trade has been good and fair prices have been given. Much of the extra choice stuff, however, was contracted for quite a long time in advance. The C. P. R. authorities state that the number of export cattle carried east this season is about 47,000, or 15,000 more than last year, and 7,000 more than in 1898. Another feature of the year's business is the number of stockers sent west, instead of to the United States. This year only 5,000 go to the States, against 15,000 last year, while 25,000 head went to our own ranges. Dressed beef is quoted at 4c. to 4½c. for country dressed, and 5c. to 6c. for city dressed.

## Sheep.

There is nothing offering outside of the Christmas trade, the stock of mutton for the winter being all killed and held here in store.

## Hogs.

There was a heavy run of hogs last week at Griffin Co.'s packing house, but the market is firm at 5c. Dressed hogs are inclined to be easier, though quotations are the same as at last issue, 4c. to 4½c. for rough hogs and stags, running up to 6c. to 6½c. for well dressed choice carcasses.

## Butter and Cheese.

Creamery.—Market nominal. All the stocks of Manitoba creamery but one or two have been sold.

Dairy.—The receipts of dairy butter are very large, rolls coming in in great quantities. It is hard to sell these rolls to advantage and they spoil on the outside quickly. In last market report we stated that tubs were preferable, because they can be exported. There is a much larger quantity of butter being made this year than usual, and we would again strongly urge farmers to put up their butter in 30 or 40 lb.

tubs, as Superintendent Murray suggests, in this issue. We saw a consignment of roll butter at one commission house that a country merchant had given 15c. a pound for and after shipping it into Winnipeg the dealers could offer him only 12c. for it. In round lots, 13½c. to 14c. is the going price. Choice dairy is worth as high as 17c. on a commission basis, but there is very little coming in. All the fresh butter goes to the local merchants, kicks around in their cellars for a few weeks, long enough for it to lose its flavor, and then it is sent into Winnipeg to sell for what it will bring. Put it into tubs.

Cheese.—Market nominal, 6c. for dairy, and from 8c. to 9c. for factory.

## Poultry and Eggs.

Poultry.—It is estimated that about eight carloads of eastern poultry have been brought in for Winnipeg trade alone, and about twelve for western points. The supply of home grown poultry is larger than ever before, and it came forward in very much better condition. We quote, delivered in Winnipeg: Turkeys, 11c.; chickens, 8c.; ducks, 9c.; geese, 9c.

Eggs.—Supply scarce and prices have advanced to 20c. a dozen, delivered in Winnipeg. Fresh eggs for cooking are very scarce.

## Hides.

The market is on the decline. Dealers are paying 6c., though some are quoting only 5½c. a pound for frozen hides. Prices are likely to go lower. Fresh killed sheep skins run from 40c. to 65c.; calf skins, 7c.

## Winnipeg's Christmas Display.

At Christmas time the city market of Winnipeg is one of the special sights of the season and with very good reason. Meats of the very choicest quality are shown in great profusion and arranged with a taste that cannot fail to command admiration. No expense is spared to make the desired effect, the choicest stock is collected from the best districts and specially fed for the purpose, and the decorations are in keeping with the quality of the meats. Other establishments make a capital display, but the city market is the principal attraction, because offering the greatest facilities for a fine array on a grand scale. The electric lighting at night has a very brilliant effect.

Messrs. P. Gallagher & Son have for years shown the prize heaves of the Winnipeg Industrial, bred and fed by D. Fraser & Son, Emerson, and this year five of these massive cattle are in evidence. Three cars of Prince Edward Island mutton and as many of choice Ontario turkeys from Smith's Falls, combined with steers raised at Maple Creek and finished at Winnipeg, make altogether a display of which any butcher might well be proud.

Messrs. Kohold & Co., on the opposite side of the market, show massive carcasses of beef on the front line, combined with native mutton, mainly from Maple Creek, and beef from the same district. Both beef and mutton were finished by Messrs. Kohold at home. Moose and bear give variety to the display. Their poultry display is also very profuse and of high excellence.

Further west, J. B. Lauzon makes an ample show of good stuff in every variety. One big thing on his hooks is a four months old Short-horn calf, bred and fed by J. Chambers, Lilyfield, Man., and weighing 530 pounds. Perhaps those months were extra long ones, but this is an extraordinary calf and does great credit to his feeder.

The Main Street attractions are fully as abundant as ever before and the run at the counters is a surprise to those who have been for the last six months talking hard times. The Hudson's Bay Co., with its ample floor space and modern ideas, easily leads, but there are followers that push vigorously for their own share of business.

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## Annual Meeting of the Minnesota State Forestry Association.

The annual meeting of the above association was held in Minneapolis on Dec. 6th, and all the reports made show awakened interest in forestry matters.

After the business session a joint meeting was held with the Horticultural Society. President Cross, in his opening remarks, outlined the work of the association, past and present, and its relation to the various other forestry divisions now carried on by the State. "Its province is to be enthusiastic and even radical by nature. It must be continued as the organized popular power back of advanced forestry movement. As such it must keep the people informed, prod them when they become indifferent, and appeal to them in order to awaken an earnest interest which will react in the law-making power."

"A Lumberman's View of the Forestry Situation" was ably given by Col. W. P. Allen, of St. Paul. Among the facts brought out, he stated that the lumberman has little to apologize for, as he has done his share towards the building up of the country and the advancement of civilization. The barriers in the way of the rapid inauguration of a rational forestry system in this country will be mainly owing to the large area to be protected and the difficulty of obtaining funds to meet the same. Also in inducing the government to attempt a general system of forest management. Forest areas that are left untouched are reasonably safe from destructive fires, and the government should withdraw all its timber lands from the market. Private parties cannot hold the same to advantage, whereas the government can and should, for the benefit of future generations; thereby regulating the sale and use of timber. Our conditions differ much from those of Germany, but their spirit is correct, and we hope to learn much by studying their methods.

Prof. S. B. Green, who spent some months the past season studying "forestry conditions in Germany" and other places, gave a very instructive talk on the above topic. It was not without considerable self-sacrifice that this system was established, for at one time Germany's forests suffered abuse nearly as much as ours. The value of timber, system of protection and taxation were touched upon. Although we cannot expect to adopt these methods, we can obtain many good suggestions from this source to base upon. A notable fact was that good roads and good forests accompanied each other. Lands not suited for agricultural purposes are planted to forests. Our native jack pine is looked upon by them as one of their most valuable trees for the sandy plains, and seed of the same commands a good price. It is a characteristic of the Germans not to lay out money in land unless it pays, and their foresight in the forest plantations is no exception to this rule.

Dr. Leo. M. Crofts, of Minneapolis, brought out many facts in his talk on the

"Wisdom of the National Park Movement" to emphasize its necessity.

Conditions have changed much since the time of the association's organization, and now, instead of the main issue being the encouragement of prairie planting, it is merging into that great question which demands the best of statesmanship to handle—that of the protection and reforestation of our native timber tracts. Although much good can yet be done in all of these lines, the latter will be pre-eminent in the assertion of its rights. After the lapse of a quarter of a century since its organization, those interested in the solution of the forestry problems have some reason to feel encouraged by its present outlook.

The general agitation of these matters and the growth of sentiment in their favor would seem to indicate that we have come to that point where the people see the necessity and should demand that forestry receive its due consideration and place. Our legislative bodies must devote more time to their consideration—they must view them fairly and with increasing favor. The past year has brought out many facts to substantiate these statements, making a year indicative of much coming good to the forestry problems which confront Minnesota. The secretary of the association is Geo. V. Strand, Taylor's Falls, Minn.



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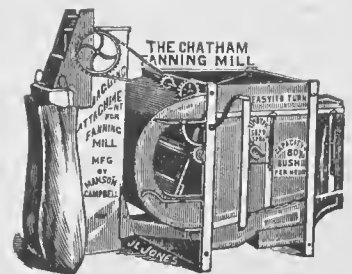
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## Feeding for Winter Eggs.

By C. H. Wise, Winnipeg, Man.

The great ambition of everyone who keeps hens is to be able to procure eggs during the winter months. The accomplishment of this is the most advanced step in poultry culture. Everyone can have eggs during spring and summer, but to get them during winter is the question that is having great consideration. The first thing to be considered is, have you fed your growing stock with winter eggs as the object in view? The food consumed by the hen furnishes feathers, flesh and warmth for her body. The replacing of her feathered coat in the fall calls for an increased supply of the proper food. If this is furnished, the conditions of nature continue in their natural course; if not, some of the tissue supply that is stored for an emergency must be consumed, a debilitated condition must result and count against the future winter eggs. If properly fed and cared for during moulting period, the old hen as well as the pullet returns more quickly to a normal condition. The sooner this is accomplished the sooner will they begin egg producing during late fall and early winter.

The main cause for hens failing to produce eggs is the radical change of their surroundings in winter quarters; it is such as to deprive them of the absolute necessities for egg production. Feeding on one particular food all the time will not produce eggs. If you prefer an exclusive grain diet, give them a variety of grains, and see that they have plenty of litter of some kind on the floors to dig amongst for the grain. Also supply green food of some kind, plenty of clean fresh water, good sharp grit, and animal food such as cut bone.

Consider for a moment the different kinds of food the hen at freedom in summer can find, and supply as nearly as possible the same ration, or its equivalent. The nearer you approach the natural summer food of the roaming hen, when she produces eggs without any effort on your part, during the winter months, the greater will be the egg supply. Proper exercise is of the greatest importance. All grain fed in winter should be scattered in the litter, such as cut straw or chaff. This continual hunt for grain gives the much needed exercise that is essential for the laying hen.

No hens will produce eggs in winter unless they have sufficient exercise to keep them in good health and vigor. Idle hens are mischievous, non-productive, grow fat and are lazy, giving no returns for their food. When we fail to give them inducements to dig and scratch for their food we are responsible for their idleness.

Never put grain in troughs or on the bare ground, for the simple reason that it is soon eaten up and little or no exercise derived from procuring the same. If they can be kept at work the whole day digging and hunting for small grain, and by so doing can secure just enough for their wants, plenty of eggs will be the result. Proper exercise is as necessary as proper food. Some people prefer the feeding of a mash every day during winter, instead of a wholly grain ration. This is all right if you can exercise judgment in feeding it, by not giving too much and thereby causing the hens to stand around because they are full and hunger is completely satisfied. Another point that is much discussed just now is the time to feed the mash. Some say the morning, because the birds, after a long night, are empty, and want something to digest quickly. Others prefer to feed the mash at night before going to roost, because in the morning they are extra hun-

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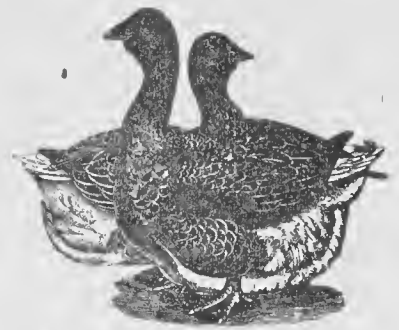
From \$5.00 to \$10.00 per pair. They are the Leghorn Goose, my old imported goose having laid over 100 eggs this season. Also a few pair of Toulouse, Brown Chinese and Embden Geese and Midwinter's noted strain of half wild Bronze Turkeys, few pair left; Barred Rocks, Javas, Brahmas, S. L. Wyandottes, Houdans, Minorcas, R. C. Brown Leghorns, B. B. R. and S. D. Bantams.

See my exhibit at Braudon Poultry Exhibition in January, 1901. Write for circular.

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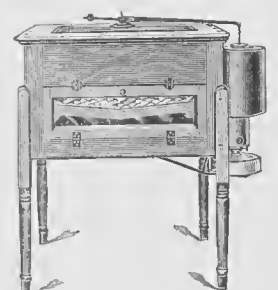
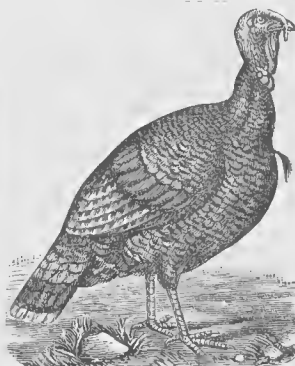
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When writing, mention The N.W. Farmer.

gry and therefore more active and willing to scratch for grain, and get thoroughly warmed up by the exercise. I, for my part, always found the best results accrue from the grain ration, viz.: Wheat in morning, cut vegetables at noon, and a few scraps, and barley and wheat alternated at night, and every other day cut bone at mid-day. Of course I am taking it for granted that the hens are properly horsed.

Now, to sum up the situation, the proper management of our fowls during fall and winter consists in furnishing them as nearly as possible with surroundings that at least partially approach the conditions of spring and summer seasons.

### Record Breakers Under the Hammer.

Some time ago we made note of the big sale of 1,000 head of horses to be sold at Madison Square Gardens, New York, late in November. This sale was a most successful one. Buyers were present from all over the country, and from many foreign parts. There was a tremendous crowd present, and when The Abbot, 2.03½, the world's champion trotter, was put up to auction there was a perfect jam, it being estimated that 6,000 people were present. He was sold after two bids for \$26,500 to John J. Scannell, Fire Commissioner of New York City. This is the highest price ever paid for a trotting stallion at public auction. The late Robert Bonner paid \$36,000 for Rarus and \$35,000 for Dexter, but these were private sales. It was thought that The Abbot would have brought a higher price, the guesses ranged as high as \$75,000. The famous Axtell went for \$14,700. Alice Mapes, a sensational 2-year-old pacer, went for \$4,000. An Austrian buyer got two crack trotting mares, Contralto and Meretta, at about half their value on account of suspicious looking legs. Thirty-nine head from Marcus Daly's Montana ranch brought a total of \$82,585, an average of over \$2,116. The tops made \$17,435. They were the first to be sold. The first day's sale averaged \$679.75 per head for 94 head. Another day's sale of 80 head averaged \$754.34. The Allerton consignment of 41 yearlings, all by Allerton but four or five, brought \$15,790, an average of \$385. The highest brought \$1,275 for a filly, a sister to Charley Hoyt, 2.07½. On the whole, the sale was a most successful one.

—Canadians will be pleased to learn that there is a likelihood of Sir Wilfrid Laurier representing Canada at the opening ceremonies of the first parliament of the confederated Australian provinces in May next. The idea of federation has developed slowly in that island continent, but Canada is pleased to see our fellow-countryman united politically as the various provinces are in Canada. Though Australian products compete with ours on the markets of the old land, yet we have nothing but good will and good wishes for our countrymen of the antipodes, and these, as is most fitting, will be carried by our Premier. It is hoped that this act of courtesy will be but the beginning of a closer union which the new Pacific cable will tend to foster, and a firmer knitting of the ties which bind us to the mother land.

### FOR SALE.

Choice young stock in B. P. ROCKS. My B. P. ROCKS won all firsts and specials at Brandon's Big Fair. Also bargains in S.L. Wyandottes, S. C. R. Leghorns and Black Hamburgs, if sold at once.

THOS. H. CHAMBERS,  
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As I am going to breed Plymouth Rocks, I wish to dispose of all of my prize-winning LIGHT BRAHMAS, LANGSHANS and PARTRIDGE COCHINS. I will sell reasonable or trade for Barred Plymouth Rocks. My stock is first-class and must have the same in exchange. My birds are prize-winners and too well known to need any comment.

In the future I intend breeding Barred Plymouth Rocks, African Bantams and Seabright Bantams.

I have now a litter of pedigreed COLLIE and FOX TERRIER PUPS for sale.

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is the one that will lay both winter and summer. Green Cut Bone will make her do it. It has been found by actual experience to double the eggs in every instance where used. The

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Are still Headquarters for the leading strains of Single and Rose-Comb White Leghorns, White and Black Wyandottes, Black Spanish, Barred Plymouth Rocks and Blue Andalusians. You will have to hurry up with your orders if you want a choice Barred Rock or Leghorn cockerel. They are going fast, only a few more choice ones to spare.

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My young stock is growing nicely and will be ready to ship by the 1st of October. I can give bargains if taken before going into winter quarters.

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Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

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A fine lot of BARRED and WHITE ROCK COCKERELS, fair Breeding Birds, at \$2.00 each. Also a few pullets and yearling hens of each variety.

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### W. F. CROSBIE, breeder of PURE WHITE & BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.



As I have not the room to raise a large number, I have decided to confine myself to breeding White Rocks exclusively, so will sell every barred bird (about 100) young and old, I have got.

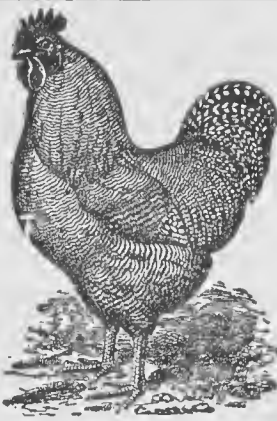
I have a lot of good ones, and will make the price low enough for any one who wants them.

Manitou, Man.

### SAM'L McCURDY,

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## Reminiscences of Early Days in the West.

By T. N. Willing, Regina, Assa.

Incidents of common occurrence while travelling over the prairie before rail-

roads superceded the Red River carts and the bull teams, are always of interest to many of those who have come since then.

It was sometimes no easy matter to get good ponies, or shaganappies as they were called, and often the start would be exciting, to say the least of it. The carts

might be loaded and all ready, but some of the ponies would not pull. It often happened that the camp at the end of the first day was not far away from where it had been in the morning. Many were the devices used to make horses draw their loads and much eloquence was wasted on unappreciating ears. Then for a few days the progress would be very uncertain, as the chances were that a hame, or a tug, or perhaps an axle would be broken and the damage would have to be repaired by inexperienced hands.

By taking advantage of opportunities the balky ponies could be replaced by others which might be better or worse, as the luck might be, as the trade which I shall now tell of will show.

In 1881 a young fellow riding a rather poor looking horse crossed the river at McVicar's just at dusk and had not been long in Grand Valley before he and a stranger were talking trade. Both seemed somewhat keen for a deal as they went towards a stable, where by the light of a match a rather fine-looking pony was shown. An even deal was made and the newly acquired horse saddled and ridden over the river, but the night by this time was dark as pitch and no trail led to the solitary shack that stood where Brandon now is, so the only thing there seemed to do was to sit down and wait for light, and when light came the shack was there, but where, oh, where, was the fine pony? Sure a horse was there, but its skin seemed many sizes too large and was in folds like that of a rhinoceros, and a worse case of mange could hardly be found. "Look on the bright side of things," is advice often given, but when trading horses it is well also to look on the other side.

It was at Brandon a few months later that a youthful Britisher was seen driving a pony with its collar upside down, and it would not be surprising if this was the same individual who was reported to have attempted to hitch an ox between the stils of his plow, and was heard enquiring how much bran should be sown to the acre. But with such was the country, to a large extent, settled, and many a now prosperous farmer can recall just such ludicrous mistakes. The determination to succeed is deeply ingrained in some natures and each failure furnishes a stone for the foundation of a successful career.

Settlement extended rapidly beyond Brandon to the Pile of Bones and Moose Jaw-bone creeks, but beyond this stretch the great plains, where for hundreds of miles, even yet, we only find the lonely rancher. In the midst of such plains a

river was a welcome sight, but crossing large streams, that were too deep to ford, was no easy work. A folding canvas boat, which we carried with us, was our ferry. First the load off a cart was taken over, then the cart itself was balanced on the frail craft and paddled across. Then, when these were all on the opposite bank the horses would be made to swim the stream. In the neighborhood of Swift Current creek the last large bands of buffalo were seen, but stray animals appeared from time to time about Medicine Hat and westward.

At that point I remember leaving our party and with a pony and cart making a lonely trip to Fort Calgary. Although it may be said that a person can drive anywhere over the prairie, a Red River cart is not the most luxurious kind of a carriage to do it in. Without the slightest sign of a trail for nearly two hundred miles it was jig, jog, and bump, bump, from morning till night, then tether the pony, gather a few dry buffalo chips to boil the kettle of water, which was taken from a slough, if handy, or from the little keg which was always carried, and after a cup of tea, a little pemmican and hard tack, roll into a blanket under the cart.

This was the time to feel lonely, al-

I was not sorry when Calgary came into view, occupying considerably less of the Bow River valley than it does now. The log buildings or the Hudson's Bay Co. and two or three small shacks were on the banks of the Elbow, while in their present position were the mission buildings and the N.W.M.P. barracks. The palisades of the latter were of heavy upright logs, as were also the sod covered guard rooms, officers' quarters, etc., which helped enclose the square. J. G. Baker & Co. did a large general business in their long low log buildings, which did duty for warehouse and residence of the employees. In that store many a lively and much enjoyed dance took place. The floor would be cleared of merchandise, the fiddlers would take their places on the counter, cow puncher and bull whacker, policeman and surveyor, trader and freighter thronged the floor, and, when the dance was called, approached the dusky maidens and matron who might be seated on flour sacks, butter tubs, or cheese boxes about the room. A snap of the finger was synonymous with the more polite "May I have the pleasure?" and soon all had partners; but should a sufficient number of ladies of the Metis not be available a few of the belles of the teepee would be asked to lay aside the blan-



T. N. Willing.



"A Relic of the Old Days."

Remains of an Old Log Stopping House in the West.

though by no means alone, as was proved by the howling of the coyote, the swoop of an owl close overhead, and the sly visits of the kit fox. The last mentioned graceful little animal is a veritable Puck of the prairie and its nightly pranks were a source of vexation as well as amusement. It is rather startling to wake out of a fitful slumber to find a sharp nose and a pair of bright eyes within a few inches of your face. In the morning it is probable that a boot would be missing, or some straps chewed off the harness, if at all within reach of the imp.

My pony saved me from a rather awkward predicament one evening. I threw off the harness shortly before sundown and rode to some low hills, hoping to see water, but was disappointed. I then turned, as I thought, in the direction of my cart, but it seemed as if it had been spirited away. I rode this way and that in search of it, until long after the sun had set and was thinking of having to spend a night hungry on the prairie. Letting the lines slacken while I was pondering over the situation, the pony kept moving off in a direction different from that in which I thought we should go, and soon broke into a trot. His manner seemed to say, "It is about time we were going back to our camp. Just trust to me," and in a few minutes we were beside the cart again.

ket and don the print frock kindly loaned them by their more favored sisters. Keeping time with the music could be heard the soft patter of the mocassined feet, the click of heels and jingle of spurs as jig followed reel till the wee sma' hours, and supper was announced. Prohibition was in force in those days, so nothing stronger than alky, Jamaica ginger, or pain-killer, with a dash of black strap tobacco in it, could be found to irrigate the toddy blossoms, or furnish a "smile" for the tenderfoot.

Supplies of all kinds were brought in by Baker & Co., from Helena and Benton on those large prairie schooners, three of which were usually coupled together and pulled by a string of eight yoke of cattle. The load would be about twelve or thirteen tons to the team and there might be half a dozen of these string teams, with their drivers, under the control of a boss, who, when necessary, would be riding ahead in search of the best crossing of a creek or locating a suitable spot for the nightly camp. The H. B. Co. brought their goods by Red River cart from the Saskatchewan, up which they were carried by boat when the water was high enough.

Of course these methods of freighting and the long hauls resulted in high prices, such as \$8 upwards for a sack of flour and 3 lbs. of sugar, or dried apples,

or sow-belly for a dollar. Beef was reasonable at 8 or 9 cents, but was killed in a rather primitive manner, not conducive to quality, the beast was run down on the prairies and shot like a buffalo.

Amongst the earlier farmers near Calgary were those well known old timers, Sam Livingston and John Glenn, and it was the latter who remarked that if they could not grow grain or vegetables about Calgary they could produce the best counterfeit of them ever seen.

The pioneer farmers had not the latest and most improved implements or machinery to work with and they followed the ancient way of threshing by treading out the grain. But they were progressive, and with the advent of the railroad, were seen threshers, binders and sulky plows; and about those plows a pilgrim Briton was heard to remark "I like those much better than those you shove."

The West was at that time a land of promise, and it has proved to be also a land of fulfilment; but most of the genuine old timers, that is, the old traders, trappers, prospectors, etc., have availed themselves of the last services of the "sky pilot" and are now "pushing clouds."

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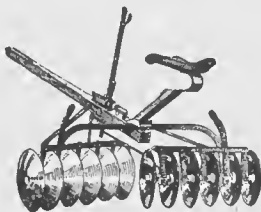
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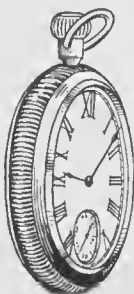
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See page 976 for Steel Roller.



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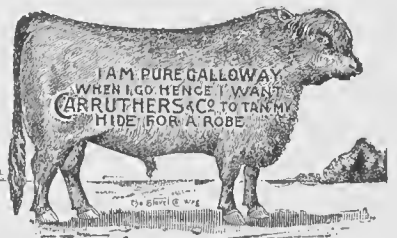


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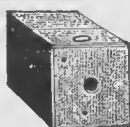
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## The Garden in Southern Manitoba.

By Jas. B. King, Fairfax, Man.

The season of 1900 will long be remembered by the farmers of Southern Manitoba as one of extreme and prolonged drouth during the growing season.



Jas. B. King.

The result was that many vegetable gardens were a total failure. The fallacy of putting the garden plot on a piece of land that had borne a grain crop the previous year was never more apparent — complete failure being usually the result; while those who sowed on land that was summer fallowed, or had a hoed crop on it the previous year, had generally more or less success.

The season with us opened auspiciously. We started sowing the hardier kinds of vegetables in the middle of April. It kept dry, with frosts in the beginning of May, until the end of the month, when we had our first rain. Parts of the rows of the later sown vegetables had not germinated up to this time, but this rain was evidently only sufficient to reach part of the seeds as numbers sprouted after the heavy rains of July 5th and 6th. This was the only rain of any account until the beginning of August, when we had a superabundance till the end of September. Frost on June 8th did considerable damage to tender plants just coming up. The heavy winds during May and June were a feature of this year and did some damage, although our garden is fairly well protected. Altogether it is the worst season we have experienced for gardening in ten years, still, although our object is only to supply ourselves, we had more than sufficient.

As before mentioned, it is a great mistake to sow garden seeds on stubble land. It has not a store of moisture like a well summer fallowed land or land that has grown a well-cultivated hoed crop. Besides, the stubble interferes with the sowing and cultivating and readily allows the land to dry out down to the depth it is plowed. The best plan is to put the garden on land that has had the moisture conserved from the previous year by cultivation of some kind, so that dependence will not have to be made altogether on the season's rain. Certainly the soil must have good capillary action, so as to hold moisture. This should be taken into consideration in selecting a plot.

The writer does not think it necessary to put the garden on summer fallow each year. The garden on this farm has been on the same spot for ten years, and we can see no reason as yet for changing it. It having been kept free from weeds for so long a time, little hand weeding is necessary and the hoeing is much easier. Of course, the position of the different kinds of vegetables is changed and the garden is dressed with rotted manure each year.

Many of the seeds sown last spring did not germinate through lack of moisture. This can be overcome by planting on land prepared as suggested, and, if the surface is dry, make the drills as deep as is necessary to have the seeds resting on moist ground—even if it is necessary to scrape the dry earth off with a hoe—cover ac-

cording to the size of the seed and firm well down. Most of the small seeds (onions, parsnips, parsley, salsify and lettuce), however, can be sown almost as early in spring as the ground is dry enough, when there will be no trouble through want of moisture to germinate them; and to have the best success with the most of these kinds of vegetables they should be sown then.

Often a few weeds are allowed to seed after the harvest takes up all the farmer's time. This was especially true this year, owing to the copious late rains. These weeds should always be removed before seeding, otherwise they will make work for future years. But if the garden is kept clean for a number of years and only thoroughly rotted manure used, you will have little trouble with weeds growing after harvest starts, even in a season like the last. Remember that by cultivating you are not only killing weeds, stopping evaporation of moisture from the surface, and allowing the air to enter the soil more freely, thereby increasing nitrification, but you are also storing up moisture for next season.

Another point that was emphasized this year is the futility of waiting for rain before transplanting. If care is taken, fair success can be obtained, even in the driest weather, if plants are set out on well-pre-

pared land. Give the plants a thorough watering an hour or two before setting them out. It allows them to take in a good supply of moisture and fewer of the fibrous roots are broken in removing. Plant them much deeper than they grew in the seed bed; up to the axis of the first leaf at least, and see that the soil is well firmed about the roots. Remove a few leaves from the plants; there are always some of the finer roots lost in transplanting, and the removal of a leaf or two helps to equalize matters. Towards evening is the best time to transplant. Give a good watering after setting out and daily for several days afterwards. Draw a little dry earth around the plants at the last watering to prevent the ground forming a crust and cracking.



Barn on the Farm of J. G. Barron, Carberry, Man.

The necessity of a windbreak was never more felt than this year. It should surround the garden entirely. A windbreak on the north and west was usually considered sufficient, but it did not prove so this year. Parties who have land liable to drift, and no windbreak, should try harrowing it a little on the wet side, so as to leave it lumpy. This will not leave it in the best tilth for gardening, but it is preferable to having it drift.

There is no work in which thoroughness pays better than in gardening; but there are lots of people who do more than double the work necessary, simply because it is done at the wrong time. Labor, to

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The best health habit to get into is to have and keep a vigorous stomach; if you have a healthy digestion you can drink your beloved coffee, smoke your favorite brand of tobacco, with little or no harm, the mischief begins when these things are forced upon the faithful stomach, without any assistance.

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Alex. Robb, Dauphin, Man., Dec. 8, 1900: "I would not like to be without The Farmer. I find a lot of valuable information in it from veterans in the farming business."

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## Some Teachings of the Year in the Territories.

By Angus Mackay, Superintendent of the Indian Head Experimental Farm.

Whatever may be in store in future years for farmers of the Northwest Territories, they may well exclaim, "From another season like the past, good Lord deliver us." Whether it is that it was deemed advisable to wind up the present century with a warning to settlers to go more slowly, or that it is the beginning of hitherto unknown dangers ahead, time alone can tell. Although object lessons were visible in nearly every district throughout the country, it is doubtful whether they will be taken to heart by more than a few settlers, the majority preferring to continue in the old way, in which "luck" forms the base of hope for the future.

For twenty years it has been apparent that the average rainfall, in the majority of seasons, is not sufficient to ensure perfect safety in depending entirely on grain. Reliable weather records have established this fact beyond a doubt, and year after year poor crops have told the same story. Yet the same old plan is adhered to, by which every available acre of land whether properly cultivated or not, is sown to wheat. Oats follow on even worse, if possible, cultivation, and in a year like the present a partial, or complete, failure of both crops is only the natural result.

Last spring was everything that could be desired, the soil was in splendid condition, the weather during seeding was perfect, the seed was as good as usual and properly sown; yet, except on summer-fallowed land, very poor crops, in many cases total failures, were the result of the season's work. In some districts this lesson was more apparent than in others, but every section of the country produced sufficient failures to make the farmers consider whether these conditions cannot be overcome, if not entirely, at least in part.

In this short article, it would be impossible to deal, at length, with all the lessons of the year, as they are probably more numerous than in any previous season in the history of the country. Four of the most important lessons have, therefore been selected, and are:—

1st. The failure of the crop of wheat on stubble land.

2nd. The difference in the crops of wheat on fallow land, according to condition of the land when sown.

3rd. The injury occasioned grain crops by the successive high winds in the spring; and

4th. The failure of the oat crop.

### FAILURE OF WHEAT ON STUBBLE LAND.

In considering the first point, the question we ask is "Why was the grain on stubble land so short and then when the land had been worked as usual, and the seed sown as previous experience showed it should be?" The answer undoubtedly is: Want of moisture, and no amount of labor, either before or after seeding, would have altered the result in the least degree. In other seasons more snow in

winter and a heavier rainfall early in June favored the stubble-crops, but over these elements the settler has no control. The only solution to the problem and the lesson to be learned in so far as the Northwest is concerned, is that the amount of stubble land sown each year shall be reduced to the lowest possible area.

### FAILURE OF WHEAT ON FALLOW LAND.

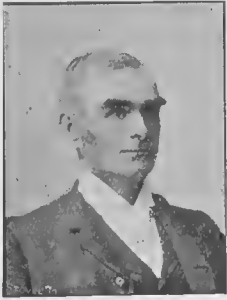
When we consider the second point we notice that, whereas, the climatic conditions affecting crops on fallowed land were precisely the same as those contended against by the grain on stubble, a fairly good, and in some cases very satisfactory return was secured from land worked in this way; clearly demonstrating that, while we cannot bring snow or rain to suit our needs, we can, by proper cultivation retain that which does come and render it available when most required. The process of conserving moisture has been so frequently brought before the notice of your readers that in this article and at this time it will not be necessary to go over the whole matter again.

### INJURY BY WIND.

With regard to the third point: I have said that the crops on fallowed land were either fairly good or entirely satisfactory. But this, in some cases, should be quali-

every farm in the eastern portion of the Territories during the past season. This, unfortunately, has not been confined to the closing year of the century, as the foolish and unreliable practice of sowing oats on stubble land from which two or three crops of wheat had been taken, without cultivation, has been the rule for years. This year the disastrous results are probably more prominent than they have hitherto been and will, it is hoped, be the cause of a reformation. In the past thirteen years, oats sown on fallow land, in any part of Assiniboia, at least, have been a better paying crop than wheat, but as regularly as the seasons came around, the risk of seeding on stubble land has been taken, in spite of the inevitable result.

In addition to the foregoing, mention might be made of the lessons to be taken from weeds in stubble crops, inferior stacking of grain, loss occasioned by carelessness in storing farm implements, the partial or entire neglect of vegetable and small fruit culture, the inattention to cultivation of hedges or wind-breaks around farm buildings and many other matters of greater or less importance, that should receive the earnest consideration of farmers, and are subjects that may be discussed at farmers' meetings or thought out individually to the benefit of every one concerned.



Angus Mackay.



View at Birtle, Man., showing Creamery in the foreground.

fied by saying, "Where not injured or entirely destroyed by winds." Now, the winds, like rain and snow, we cannot control, and the question is, can we prevent injury, partially or altogether? It is a well-known fact that it is only on land which has been cropped for years, that injury is occasioned even by the most severe winds.

The two methods which at present can be recommended as a means of overcoming this difficulty are: (1) seeding old land to grass, thereby filling the soil with fresh grass-roots; (2) or by growing wind-breaks. On large farms, neither of these plans can be followed, and at the same time permit the usual area of grain to be grown. But it is a question if in the end the large farmers would not make safer profits with more grass and less grain than they are growing to-day. On the Experimental Farm, the great benefit derived from the grass-roots in the soil was this year clearly apparent, and the value of wind-breaks was unmistakable. The former, however, protected the whole field from the action of the winds; whereas, the latter only saved portions of the crop, the extent being in accordance with the height of the wind-break.

### THE FAILURE OF THE OAT CROP.

The fourth lesson may be taken from the poor crop of oats grown on almost

In a Christmas number it would hardly be advisable to burden an article with the oft-repeated story of methods of working a fallow or stubble land, protecting grain from winds, building a stack, storing implements, growing vegetables or small fruits, or of growing trees for the protection of farm buildings, but even at this festive season it is earnestly hoped that all those who are engaged in founding homes for themselves and future generations in this vast country will devote some time to the serious consideration of climatic and other conditions of vital importance to the ultimate success of their adopted country.

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## Forestry in Manitoba and North-West Territories.

By E. Stewart, D.L.S., Chief Inspector of Timber and Forestry, Ottawa.

It will be impossible within the space I propose to take to do more than allude to a few leading phases of the forestry problem as it relates to Manitoba and the Territories. The benefits that a country derives from its forests are too numerous for more than a passing reference. In the first place, they are valuable for the timber they produce; and it may be remarked that of all the wasteful methods practiced by the people of America, the way the forest wealth has been sacrificed is the most deplorable. This abuse extends from the large operator, who takes out millions of feet each year, to the prairie farmer, who invades the poplar bluff for fuel for his home.

### SAVE THE BLUFFS.

The idea of such a thing as growth seems not to have been thought of. Ask a woodsman what a certain timbered lot is worth, and he will at once figure up the quantity of the larger timber on the land and give you the value according to that, making no account of the young crop that is growing up. Now, there are hundreds and thousands of bluffs of timber scattered over the country, even on what is called the prairie sections, which would furnish indefinitely a yearly undiminished supply, if only the larger trees were cut and the young ones allowed time to develop. In many cases this timber is growing on land better adapted for its growth than for anything else; and, moreover, apart from the actual commercial value of the timber, such groves are almost invaluable to the settlers in those regions as shelter belts and wind-breaks, and should be retained for these purposes, if for no other.

### INFLUENCE ON CLIMATE.

But I desire to refer to another, and perhaps the most important function of the forest; that is, the part it performs in its effects on climate, on the distribution of moisture, and more especially to its great utility in regulating the flow of water in rivers and streams. Let us for a moment consider the operations of nature going on silently in the forest. Trees derive most of the ingredients that go to make up their organism, not from the mineral constituents of the earth, but from the atmosphere on the one hand and from water on the other. The latter, by means of a power not understood, rises from the roots to the leaves often to distances of one or two hundred feet in height, against the attraction of gravity and far beyond the height that it could be forced in an air pump.

In the leaves a process of assimilation is effected. The carbon dioxide of the air becomes decomposed by a substance technically known as chlorophyll under the influence of light. The oxygen goes back to the air and the carbon remains as the chief constituent in the tree, which contains only about 1 part to 100 by weight of earthy constituents. Hence it is that trees will thrive and often grow to a large size on soil quite inadequate for the growth of cereals. Again, water being (as before stated) a great factor in the tree growth, we find in a humid climate, such, for instance, as the Pacific coast affords, trees of the largest dimensions, and conversely, they diminish in size as we come east from that coast till we reach the dry and semi-arid plains of Alberta, where their growth is very difficult. Go farther east on the same latitude and we will find them increasing in size according as the rainfall increases. Lack of moisture, therefore, and not the severity of the climate, largely

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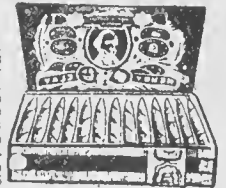
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accounts for the absence of tree growth on our northwestern plains.

But it must be remembered that the amount of water retained in the tree is a very small part of what passes up through it from the soil. By far the larger part is transpired in the form of vapor through the leaves to the atmosphere. It is said on good authority that a large deciduous tree will give off as much as a barrel of water a day in dry summer weather. Consider, then, the effect of such a distribution of moisture on the climate of the country surrounding even a limited extent of forest.

### MECHANICAL INFLUENCE OF FORESTS.

I should like to draw particular attention to what might be called the mechanical effect of forests on elevated land and along the sources of streams. When rain falls or snow melts on the prairie, the water either evaporates or is carried quickly away by the streams, the sod and compact earth preventing much absorption. On the contrary, when rain falls in the woods it is taken up by the earth; the roots of the trees act like pipes to convey it deep into the soil. Moreover, the snow melts gradually and the water from it is similarly retained and given to the earth. This water is by no means lost. What is not taken up by the trees finds its way into rock crevices or underground passages, and is given out gradually in the form of springs which feed the small streams. In these operations time is taken, and so the great object is attained of having a gradual and continuous flow instead of a sudden run-off succeeded by a drouth.

Now, by way of illustration, and also in order to call the attention of the people of the Province of Manitoba to a matter in which they are vitally interested, I would refer to the timber in the Riding Mountains. I fear that the benefits derived from the timber growing on these mountains are not realized by a large number of the inhabitants; nor do they apprehend the disastrous consequences that would follow if they were denuded of their timber. They form a natural reservoir in which is stored a supply of water for a large part of the population of the province, in the same sense as an artificial reservoir holds in reserve a supply to be given out when required to the inhabitants of towns possessing a waterworks system; and to allow the forest covering at this source of supply to be removed would have the same effect in the one case as opening the reservoir in the other and allowing the

stored-up water to escape in a torrent when least needed.

Take a glance at the map of Manitoba and note some of its physical characteristics. Trace up the Assiniboine, the second river in size, and perhaps the first in importance, in the province, and we find that it derives by far its largest supply of water from the Riding Mountains through its tributaries, the Little Saskatchewan, the Bird Tail, the Shell, and other smaller streams. Again, on the north and east sides of these mountains and the ranges north of them, and receiving their supply from the same source, we have the White Mud, Turtle, Ochre, Vermilion, Wilson, Valley, Drifting Fork, Pine, Duck, Swan, Moody, Birch, Bell, Steep Rock, Red Deer, etc. From this it will be seen how large a proportion of the Province of Manitoba is dependent on this source of supply for the water that flows through it, and that in setting apart over 1,000,000 acres as a forest reserve in those mountains, the government was acting wisely and in the interests of the country. The preservation of this reserve should be of special interest to the people of the whole province, and it is hoped that the efforts being made by the Federal government to retain it as a permanent reserve and to guard it from destruction may be seconded by the Provincial authorities and aided by the people residing in the locality.

I refer to the Riding Mountains as an example of what is being undertaken in other localities; and, of the duties of those having the management of the forests of this country, whether on Dominion territory or in the provinces, none are of greater importance than selecting such forest reserves and having them permanently set apart before vested rights have been created.

### TREE PLANTING ON THE PLAINS

I wish, before closing, to say a few words on tree planting on the plains. This branch of forestry, so far as the Dominion is concerned, is one of scarcely less importance than that relating to the natural growth. That trees can be grown wherever grain is raised in our Northwest is now probably recognized as an established fact.

In the early days much labor was lost and many disappointments met by farmers who imagined that the fertility of the prairie soil was so great that grain could be raised with but little care in the preparation of the soil or in the selection of

the seed. By these disappointments wholesome lessons have been taught the agriculturist, and the evidences that he has profited by them are now everywhere apparent in a wise selection of seed grain to suit the particular district where it is to be sown, as well as by the care given to the preparation and tilling of the soil.

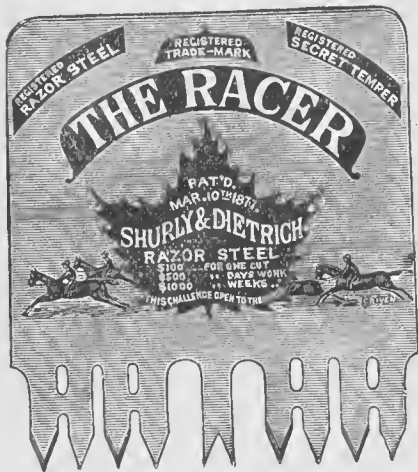
Just in the same way and from similar causes, many have been disappointed in their attempts to raise forest trees. The soil requires to be just as carefully prepared before planting a tree as before sowing grain or planting vegetables, and it is also just as necessary to see to the cultivation after planting and not to allow weeds or grass to grow up with the young trees. The selection of the varieties best adapted to the climate and locality is, of course, a matter of supreme importance. Another mistake which has been made in some cases is planting thinly instead of in clumps or belts. But all these are errors easily avoided, and with the object lessons furnished at so many points in the country by those who have already succeeded, no doubt can exist that certain varieties of trees can be successfully and profitably cultivated. I say profitably because there is no question that windbreaks and hedges, in addition to the beauty they add to the landscape and the comfort that their shelter affords in winter, are of great advantage in preventing the snow from drifting off the fields, leaving the ground bare in the winter and dry in the spring, and also in arresting those dry, hot winds of the early summer, which often are so destructive to the struggling young grain.

At the last session of the Dominion Parliament a small grant was made for the two-fold purpose of forest protection and tree culture on the plains. Part of this amount has been expended in forest protection this season, but as the summer was far advanced before the money was available, no expenditure has yet been made for tree planting. I may perhaps be permitted to say, however, that a plan of action is being considered, and that it is the intention that this plan shall be laid before the people at a number of meetings to be held this winter at various points in the country.

John D. Stewart, Arcola, Assa., Dec. 7, 1900: "I consider The Nor'-West Farmer a first-class paper."

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## An Old-Fashioned Christmas.

By Richard Marsh.

"An old-fashioned Christmas.—A lively family will accept a gentleman as paying guest to join them in spending an old-fashioned Christmas in the heart of the country."

That was the advertisement. It had its points. I was not sure what, in this case, an old-fashioned Christmas might happen to mean. I imagine there were several kinds of "old-fashioned" Christmases; but it could hardly be worse than a chop in my chambers, or—horror of horrors!—at the club; or my cousin Luey's notion of what she calls the "festive season." Festive? Yes! She and her husband, who suffers from melancholia, and all the other complaints which flesh is heir to, and I, dragging through what I call a patent-medicine dinner, and talking of everybody who is dead and gone, or else going, and of nothing else.

So I wrote to the advertiser. The reply was written in a sprawling feminine hand. It was a little vague. It appeared that the terms would be five guineas; but there was no mention of the length of time which that fee would cover. I might arrive, it seemed, on Christmas Eve, but there was no hint as to when I was to go, if ever. The whole thing was a trifle odd. There was nothing said about the sort of accommodation which would be provided, nothing about the kind of establishment which was maintained, or the table which was kept. No references were offered or asked for. It was merely stated that "we're a lively family, and if you're lively yourself you'll get on uncommonly well." The letter was signed "Madge Wilson."

Now it is a remarkable thing that I have always had an extraordinary predilection for the name Madge. I do not know why. I have never known a Madge. And yet, from my boyhood upward, I have desired to meet one. Here was an opportunity offered. She was apparently the careworn mother of a "lively family." Under such circumstances she was hardly likely to be "lively" herself, but her name was Madge, and it was the accident of her Christian name which decided me to go.

I had no illusions. No doubt the five guineas were badly wanted; even a "lively family" would be hardly likely to advertise for a perfect stranger to spend Christmas with them if they were not. I did not expect a princely entertainment. Still I felt that it could hardly be worse than a chop or cousin Luey; the subjects of her conversation I never cared about when they were alive, and I certainly do not want to talk about them now they are dead. As for the "pills" and "drops" with which her husband doses himself between the courses, it makes me ill even to think of them.

On Christmas Eve the weather was abominable. All night it had been blowing and raining. In the morning it began to freeze. By the time the streets were like so many skating rinks it commenced to snow. And it kept on snowing; that turned out to be quite a record in the way of snowstorms. Hardly the sort of weather to start for an unknown destination "in the heart of the country." But, as the last moment, I did not like to back out. I said I would go, and I meant to go.

I had been idiot enough to load myself with a lot of Christmas presents, without the faintest notion why. I had not given a Christmas present for years—there had

been no one to give them to. Luey cannot bear such trifling, and her husband's only notion of a present at any time was a gallon jar of somebody's Stomach Stirrer. I am no dealer in poisons.

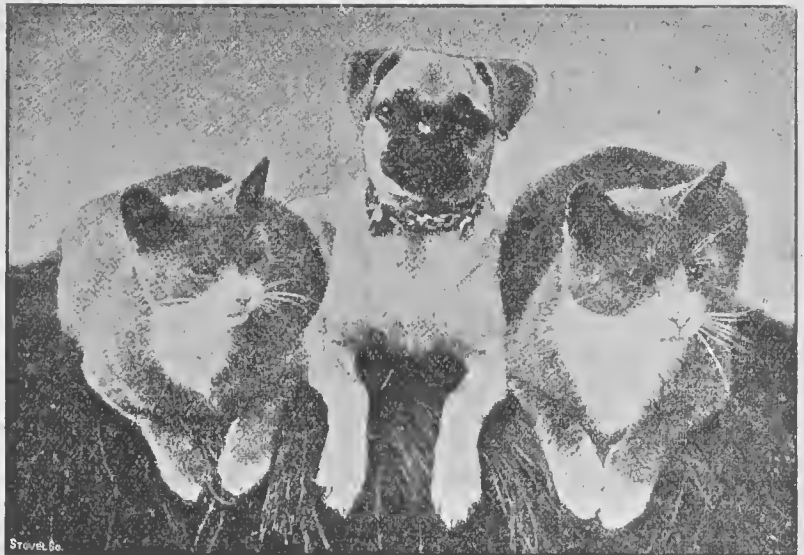
I knew nothing of the people I was going to. The youngest member of the family might be twenty, or the oldest ten. No doubt the things I had bought would be laughed at, probably I should never venture to offer them. Still, if you have not tried your hand at that kind of thing for ever so long, the mere act of purchasing is a pleasure. That is a fact.

I had never enjoyed "shopping" so much since I was a boy. I felt quite lively myself as I mingled with the Christmas crowd, looking for things which might not turn out to be absolutely preposterous. I even bought something for Madge—I mean Mrs. Wilson. Of course, I knew that I had no right to do anything of the kind, and was aware that the chances were a hundred to one against my ever presuming to hint at its existence. I was actually ass enough to buy something for her husband—two things, indeed; alternatives, as it were—a box of cigars, if he turned out to be a smoker, and a case of whiskey if he didn't. I hoped to good-

warm for the officials, however cold I might have been myself.

When the train did start, some forty minutes after schedule time, it jolted along in a laborious fashion at the rate of about six miles an hour, stopping at every roadside hovel. I counted seven in a distance, I am convinced, of less than twenty miles. When at last I reached Crofton, my journey's end, it turned out that the station staff consisted of a half-witted individual, who was stationmaster, porter, and clerk combined, and a hulking lair who did whatever else there was to do. No one had come to meet me, the village was "about half a mile," and Hangar Dene, the house for which my steps were bent, "about four miles by the road"—how far it was across ploughed fields my informant did not mention.

There was a trap at the Boy and Blunderbuss, but that required fetching. Finally the hulking lad was despatched. It took him some time, considering the distance was only "about half a mile." When the trap did appear it looked to me uncommonly like an open spring cart. In it I was deposited, with my luggage. The snow was still descending, in whirling clouds. Never shall I forget the drive,



Jumbo.

Spider.

Toddles.

ness that he would not prove to be a hypochondriac, like Luey's husband. I would not give him pills. What the "lively family" would think of a perfect stranger arriving burdened with rubbish, as if he had known them all their lives, I did not dare to think. No doubt they would set him down as a lunatic right away.

It was a horrible journey. The trains were late, and, of course, over-crowded; there was enough luggage in our compartment to have filled it, and still there was one more passenger than there ought to have been; an ill-conditioned old fellow who wanted my hat-box put into the van because it happened to tumble off the rack on to his head. I pointed out to him that the rack was specially constructed for light luggage, and if the train jolted, he ought to blame the company, not me. He was impervious to reason. His wrangling and jangling so upset me that I went past the station at which I ought to have changed. Then I had to wait three-quarters of an hour for a train to take me back again, only to find I had missed the one I intended to catch. So I had to cool my heels for two hours and a half in a wretched cowshed amidst a bitter, whirling snowstorm. It is some satisfaction for me to be able to reflect that I made it

in that miserable cart, through the storm and those pitch black country lanes. We had been jogging along some time before the driver opened his mouth.

"Be you going to stop with they Wilsons?"

"I am."

"Ah!"

There was something in the tone of his "Ah!" which whetted my curiosity, near the end of my tether though I was.

"Why do you ask?"

"It be about time as someone were to stay with them as were a bit capable like."

I did not know what he meant. I did not ask. I was beyond it. I was chilled to the bone, wet, tired, hungry. I had long been wishing that an old-fashioned Christmas had been completely extinct before I had thought of adventuring in quest of one. Better cousin Luey's notion of the "festive season."

We passed through a gate, which I had to get down to open, along some sort of avenue. Suddenly the cart pulled up.

"Here we be."

That might be so. It was a pity he did not add where "here" was. There was a great shadow, which possibly did duty for a house, but, if so, there was not a light in any of the windows, and there

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NO PLASTER!  
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It has done away with the Surgeon's Knife and the torturing plaster, and substituted therefor a simple home treatment that goes right to the foundation of the trouble, and cures the disease by neutralizing and destroying the poison that caused it.

## Cures are all Permanent!

Out of all the hundreds of cures we have effected, we have never know of one case where the disease has returned, and we would like to send the readers of the N. W. Farmer the names of some who have been cured over 6 to 8 years.

### CANCER OF THE FACE CURED IN 1896.

MESSRS. STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont.—Gentlemen, I commenced using V. C. C. three years ago the first of this month. I took three bottles in all, and that was sufficient to cure me completely, as I have had no return of the disease since. I had been treated for several months by the plaster process, and was so weak that my friends thought I would never get well; but through the merits of V. C. C. I am all right to-day. I regard it as a great medicine, and would advise all persons afflicted with Cancer to give it a trial. When I started taking this remedy my right cheek was almost all gone, having been eaten off with the disease and the plaster, clear from my eye to the lower part of my jaw and back almost to my ear. Now I am entirely cured, and I give you the privilege to use my name in any way you wish for the sake of those who may be suffering from Cancer.—Yours truly, GEO. R. BECKWITH, Boon, Mich., U.S.A., April 10, 1899.

### A PERMANENT CURE AFTER PLASTERS FAIL.

MESSRS. STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont.—Dear Sirs, I write to let you know how grateful I feel for what your Vegetable Cancer Cure has done for me. I was troubled with Cancer in my breast for four years, and was advised by different doctors to have my breast taken off; but hearing of a man that drew out Cancers by plaster, I decided to try him for two months. I suffered something dreadful, and, after suffering all the agony, the Cancer came back again as bad as ever. I heard of your method of curing without knife or plaster, and was advised to try it. After using it a short time the lump began to disappear so rapidly I could scarcely believe it, and by the time the third bottle was done the lump had all gone, and I felt as if I could go and tell every person troubled with Cancer about your Vegetable Cancer Cure.

A lady, hearing of my cure, sent and got it for a Cancer in her throat, and she is now able to do her own work, and feels very grateful for the medicine.—Yours truly, Mrs. M. BRIGNALL, February 17, 1899.

### DOCTORS SAID HE COULD NOT LIVE.

MESSRS. STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont.—Dear Sirs, It is over a year ago since Mr. Downs was cured by your V.C.C., and I am glad to say it is a permanent and perfect cure. When he began taking your remedy, we had no idea that he could be cured; our neighbors and friends saw nothing ahead of him but death in a short time. He was confined to the house the last part of August, 1898. Our doctor called it bilious fever. He could keep nothing on his stomach, kept growing worse, had terrible pains running from right side of back through to the inside of right hip and leg. The doctor thought it might be sciatica. I did not feel satisfied, so sent to Sherbrooke for one of the best doctors there. The two doctors held a consultation, and pronounced it a tumor of cancerous nature, and said he could not live. Knowing that your V. C. C. had cured Mrs. Saunders of a Cancer, I asked her to send for a bottle of the V. C. C. for me. She said she would send if I said so, but she did not think he would live till it got here. He did live, and after taking it for a few days, I could see a change for the better. It regulated his stomach and bowels (of which he had lost control), and I could see he was getting stronger and was not in so much pain. Mr. Downs kept gaining strength, so that he was able to do his farm work when spring opened up. He took half a dozen bottles. To God and the V. C. C. we owe his wonderful cure, and I would like all afflicted like he was to give V. C. C. a trial. If you wish to use this letter for the benefit of other sufferers, you are at liberty to do so.

Yours truly (signed) Mrs. J. W. DOWNS, Brookbury, Que., May 1, 1900.

SEND FOR OUR  
NEW PAMPHLET

*Cancer: Its Cause and Cure.*

ONLY 6c. BY MAIL, SECURELY  
SEALED IN PLAIN WRAPPER,

## N. W. STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont.

If you Suffer from Kidney Trouble of any description, send us \$1.00 for 2 Boxes Dr. Pitcher's Backache Kidney Tablets; we will return your money if they do not cure you.

was nothing visible in the shape of a door. The whereabouts of this, however, the driver presently made clear.

"There be the door in front of you; you go up three steps, if you can find 'em. There's a knocker, if none of 'em haven't twisted it off. If they have, there's a bell on your right, if it isn't broken."

There appeared to be no knocker, though whether it had been "twisted" off was more than I could say. But there was a bell, which creaked with rust, though it was not broken. I heard it tinkle in the distance. No answer, though I allowed a more than decent interval.

"Better ring again," suggested the driver. "Hard. Maybe they're up to some of their games, and wants rousing."

Was there a chuckle in the fellow's voice? I rang again, and again with all the force I could. The bell reverberated through what seemed like an empty house.

"Is there no one in the place?"

"They're there right enough. Where's another thing. Maybe on the roof; or in the cellar. If they know you're coming, perhaps they hear and don't choose to answer. Better ring again."

I sounded another peal. Presently feet were heard advancing along the passage—several pairs it seemed—and a light gleamed through the window over the floor. A voice inquired:

"Who's there?"

except water, and I don't think you'd care for that."

"I can't say rightly as how I should, miss. Next time will do. Be it all right?"

The girl continued to regard me.

"Perhaps you had better come inside."

"I think I had."

I went inside; it was time.

"Have you any luggage?" I admitted that I had. "Perhaps it had better be brought in."

"Perhaps it had."

"Do you think that you could manage, Tidy?"

"The mare, she'll stand still enough. I should think I could, miss."

By degrees my belongings were borne into the hall, hidden under an envelope of snow. The girl seemed surprised at their number. The driver was paid, the cart disappeared, the door was shut; the girl and I were alone together.

"We didn't expect that you would come."

"Not expect me? But it was all arranged; I wrote to say I could come. Did you not receive my letter?"

"We thought that you were joking."

"Joking! Why should you imagine that?"

"We were joking."

"You were? Then I am to gather that I have been made the subject of a practical joke, and that I am an intruder here?"



"At the Plow."

"Mr. Christopher, from London."

The information was greeted with what sounded uncommonly like a chorus of laughter. There was a rush of retreating feet, an expostulating voice, then darkness again, and silence.

"Who lives here? Are the people mad?"

"Well—thereabouts."

Once more I suspected the driver of a chuckle. My temper was rising. I had not come all that way, and subjected myself to so much discomfort, to be played tricks with. I tolled the bell again. After a few seconds' interval the pit-pat of what was obviously one pair of feet came towards the door. Again a light gleamed through the pane. A key was turned, a chain unfastened, bolts withdrawn; it seemed as if someone had to drag a chair forward before one of these latter could be reached. After a vast amount of unfastening, the door was opened, and on the threshold there stood a girl, with a lighted candle in her hand. The storm rushed in: she put up her hand to shield the light from danger.

"Can I see Mrs. Wilson. I'm expected. I'm Mr. Christopher, from London."

"Oh!"

That was all she said. I looked at her; she at me. The driver's voice came from the background.

"I drove him over from the station, miss. There be a lot of luggage. He do say he's come to stay with you."

"Is that you, Tidy? I'm afraid I can offer you nothing to drink. We've lost the key of the cellar, and there's nothing out,

"Well, it's quite true that we did not think you were in earnest. You see, it's this way, we're alone."

"Alone? Who are 'we?'"

"Well, it will take a good while to explain, and you look tired and cold."

"I am both."

"Perhaps you're hungry?"

"I am."

"I don't know what you can have to eat, unless it's to-morrow's dinner."

"To-morrow's dinner!" I stared. "Can I see Mrs. Wilson?"

"Mrs. Wilson? That's mamma. She's dead."

"I beg your pardon. Can I see your father?"

"Oh, father's been dead for years."

"Then to whom have I the pleasure of speaking?"

"I'm Madge. I'm mother now."

"You are—mother now?"

"The trouble will be about where you are to sleep—unless it's with the boys. The rooms are all anyhow, and I'm sure I don't know where the beds are."

"I suppose there are servants in the house?"

She shook her head.

"No. The boys thought that they were nuisances, so we got rid of them. The last went yesterday. She wouldn't do any work, so we thought she'd better go."

"Under those circumstances, I think it probable that you were right. Then, am I to understand that there are children?"

"Rather!"

A PURE GRAPE CREAM OF TARTAR POWDER

# DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Highest Honors, World's Fair  
Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair

Avoid Baking Powders containing  
alum. They are injurious to health

As she spoke there came a burst of laughter from the other end of the passage. I spun round. No one was in sight. She explained,

"They're waiting round the corner. Perhaps we'd better have them here. You people, you'd better come and let me introduce you to Mr. Christopher."

A procession began to appear from round the corner of boys and girls. In front was a girl of about sixteen. She advanced with outstretched hand and an air of self-possession which took me at a disadvantage.

"I'm Bessie. I'm sorry we kept you waiting at the door, but the fact is that we thought it was Eliza's brother who had come to insult us again."

"Pray don't mention it. I am glad that it was not Eliza's brother."

"So am I. He is a dreadful man."

I shook hands with the rest of them. There were six more, four boys and two girls. They formed a considerable congregation as they stood eyeing me with inquiring glances. Madge was the first to speak.

"I wondered all along if he would take it as a joke, and you see he hasn't. I thought all the time that it was a risky thing to do."

"I like that! You keep your thoughts to yourself then. It was you proposed it. You said you'd been reading about something of the kind in a story, and you voted for our advertising ourselves for a lark."

The speaker was the biggest boy, a good-looking youngster, with fallow cheeks and shrewd black eyes.

"But, Rupert, I never meant it to go so far as this."

"How far did you mean it to go then? It was your idea all through. You sent in the advertisement, you wrote the letters, and now he's here. If you didn't mean it, why didn't you stop his coming?"

"Rupert!"

The girl's cheeks were crimson. Bessie interposed.

"The thing is that as he is here it's no good worrying about whose fault it is. We shall simply have to make the best of it."

Then to me, "I suppose you really come to stay?"

"I confess that I had some notion of the kind—to spend an old-fashioned Christmas."

At this there was laughter, chiefly from the boys. Rupert exclaimed:

"A nice sort of old-fashioned Christmas you'll find it will be. You'll be sorry you came before its through."

"I am not so sure of that."

There appeared to be something in my tone which caused a touch of silence to descend upon the group. They regarded

# Blue Ribbon Jelly Powder

When people find that the most delicious Jelly (superior to any home made jelly) can be made in a few seconds and at trifling cost by merely adding boiling water to

## BLUE RIBBON JELLY POWDER

Then this article will be in universal demand.

each other doubtfully, as if in my words a reproof was implied. Bessie was again the spokeswoman.

"Of course, now that you have come, we mean to be nice to you, that is as nice as we can. Because the thing is that we're not in a condition to receive visitors. Do we look as if we were?"

To be frank, they did not. Even Madge was a little unkempt, while the boys were in what I believe is the average state of the average boy.

"And," murmured Madge, "where is Mr. Christopher to sleep?"

"What is he to eat?" inquired Bessie. She glanced at my packages. "I suppose you have brought nothing with you?"

"I'm afraid I haven't. I had hoped to have found something ready for me on my arrival."

Again they peeped at each other, as if ashamed. Madge repeated her former suggestion.

"There's to-morrow's dinner."

"Oh, hang it!" exclaimed Rupert, "it's not so bad as that. There's a ham."

"Uncooked."

"You can cut a steak off, or whatever you call it, and have it broiled."

A meal was got ready, in the preparation of which every member of the family took a hand. And a room was found for me, in which was a blazing fire and traces of recent feminine occupation. I suspected that Madge had yielded her own apartment as a shelter for the stranger. By the time I had washed and changed my clothes, the impromptu dinner, or supper, or whatever it was, was ready.

A curious repast it proved to be; composed of oddly contrasted dishes, cooked — and sometimes uncooked — in original fashion. But hunger, that piquant sauce,

gave it a relish of its own. At first no one seemed disposed to join me. By degrees, however, one after another found a knife and fork, until all the eight were seated with me round the board, eating some of them, as if for dear life.

"The fact is," explained Rupert, "we're a rum lot. We hardly ever sit down together. We don't have regular meals, but whenever anyone feels peckish he goes and gets what there is, and cooks it and eats it on his own."

"It is not quite as bad as that," interposed Madge, "though it's pretty bad."

It did seem pretty bad, from the conversational point of view. From their own conversation, which was candour itself, I gleaned details which threw light upon the peculiar position of affairs. It seemed that their father had been dead some seven years. Their mother, who had been always delicate, had allowed them to run nearly wild. Since she died, some ten months back, they appeared to have run quite wild. The house, with some six hundred acres of land, was theirs, and an income, as to the exact amount no one seemed quite clear.

"It's about eight hundred a year," said Rupert.

"I don't think it's quite so much," doubted Madge.

"I'm sure it's more," declared Bessie. "I believe we're being robbed."

I thought it extremely probable. They must have had peculiar parents. Their father had left everything absolutely to their mother, and the mother, in her turn, everything in trust to Madge, to be shared equally among them all. Madge was an odd trustee. In her hands the household had become a republic, in which every one did exactly as he or she pleased. The re-

sult was chaos. No one wanted to go to school, so no one went. The servants, finding themselves provided with eight masters and mistresses, followed their example, and did as they liked. Consequently, after sundry battles royal — lively episodes some of them had evidently been — one after the other had been got rid of, until now not one remained. Plainly the house must be going to rack and ruin.

"But have you no relations?" I inquired.

Rupert answered.

"We've got some cousins, or uncles, or something of the kind in Australia, where, so far as I'm concerned, I hope they'll stop."

When I was in my room, which I feared was Madge's, I told myself that it was a queer establishment on which I had lighted. Yet I could not honestly affirm that I was sorry I had come. I had lived such an uneventful and such a solitary life, and had so often longed for someone in whom to take an interest—who would not talk medicine chest!—that to be plunged, all at once, into the centre of this troop of boys and girls was an accident which, if only because of its novelty, I found amusing. And then it was so odd that I should have come across a Madge at last!

In the morning I was aroused by noises, the cause of which, at first, I could not understand. By degrees the explanation dawned on me; the family was putting the house to rights. A somewhat noisy process it seemed. Someone was singing, someone else was shouting, and two or three others were engaged in a heated argument. In such loud tones was it conducted that the gist of the matter travelled up to me.

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OUR FRIENDS

A

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy

New Year.



"How do you think I'm going to get this fire to burn if you beastly kids keep messing it about? It's no good banging at it with the poker till it's alight."

The voice was unmistakably Rupert's. There was the sound of a scuffle, cries of indignation, then a girlish voice pouring oil upon the troubled waters. Presently there was a rattle and clatter, as if someone had fallen from the top of the house to the bottom. I rushed to my bedroom door.

"What on earth has happened?"

A small boy was outside—Peter. He explained.



"Oh, it's only the broom and dustpan gone tobogganning down the stairs. It's Bessie's fault; she shouldn't leave them on the landing."

Bessie, appearing from a room opposite, disclaimed responsibility.

"I told you to look out where you were going, but you never do. I'd only put them down for a second, while I went in to empty a jug of water on to Jack, who won't get out of bed, and there are all the boots to clean."

Injured tones came through the open portal.

"You wait, that's all! I'll soak your bed to-night—I'll drown it. I don't want to clean your dirty boots, I'm not a shoe-black."

The breakfast was a failure. To begin with, it was inordinately late. It seemed that a bath was not obtainable. I had been promised some hot water, but as I waited and waited and none arrived, I proceeded to break the ice in my jug—it was a bitterly cold morning, nice "old-fashioned" weather—and to wash in the half-frozen contents. As I am not accustomed to perform my ablutions in partially dissolved ice, I fear that the process did not improve my temper.

It was past eleven when I got down, feeling not exactly in a "Christmassy" frame of mind. Everything, and everyone, seemed at sixes and sevens. It was after noon when breakfast appeared. The principal dish consisted of eggs and bacon; but as the bacon was fried to cinders, and the eggs all broken, it was not so popular as it might have been. Madge was moved to melancholy.

"Something will have to be done! We can't go on like this! We must have someone in to help us!"

Bessie was sarcastic.

"You might give Eliza another trial. She told you, if you didn't like the way she burned the bacon to burn it yourself, and as you've followed her advice, she might be able to give you other useful hints on similar lines."

Rupert indulged himself in the same vein.

"Then there's Eliza's brother. He threatened to knock your blooming head off for saying Eliza was dishonest, just because she collared everything she laid her hands on; he might turn out a useful sort of creature to have about the place."

"It's all very well for you to laugh, but

it's beyond a jest. I don't know how we're going to cook the dinner."

"Can I be of any assistance?" I inquired. "First of all, what is there to cook?"

It seemed that there were a good many things to cook. A turkey, a goose, beef, plum pudding, mince pies, custards, sardines—it seemed that Molly, the third girl, as she phrased it, could "live on sardines," and esteemed no dinner a decent dinner at which they did not appear—together with a list of etceteras half as long as my arm.

"One thing is clear; you can't cook all those things to-day."

"We can't cook anything."

This was Rupert. He was tilting his chair back, and had his face turned towards the ceiling.

"Why not?"

"Because there's no coal."

"No coal?"

"There's about half a scuttle full of dust. If you can make it burn you'll be clever."

What Rupert said was correct. Madge confessed, with crimson cheeks, that she had meant, over and over again, to order some coal, but had continually forgotten it, until finally Christmas Day had found them with an empty cellar. There was plenty of wood, but it was not so dry as it might have been, and, anyhow, the grate was not constructed to burn wood.

"You might try smoked beef," suggested Rupert. "When that wood goes at all it smokes like one o'clock. If you heat the beef up over it, it would be smoked enough for anyone by the time that it was done."

I began to rub my chin. Considering the breakfast we had had, from my point of view the situation commenced, for the first time, to look really grave. I wondered if it would not be possible to take the whole eight somewhere where something really eatable could be got. But, when I broached the subject I learned that the thing could not be done. The nearest hostelry was the "Boy and Blunderbus," and it was certain that nothing eatable could be had there, even if accommodation could be found for us at all. Nothing in the shape of a possible house of public entertainment was to be found closer than the market town, eight miles off; it was unlikely that even there a Christmas dinner for nine could be provided at a moment's notice. Evidently the only thing to do was to make the best of things.

When the meeting broke up, Madge came and said a few words to me alone.

"I really think you had better not stay."

"Does that mean that you had rather I went?"

"No; not exactly that."

"Then nearly that?"

"No; not a bit that. Only you must see for yourself how awfully uncomfortable you'll be here, and what a horrid house this is."

"My dear Madge"—everybody called her Madge, so I did—"even if I wanted to go, which I don't—and I would remind you that you contracted to give me an old-fashioned Christmas—I don't see where there is that I could go."

"Of course, there's that. I don't see, either. So I suppose you'll have to stay. But I hope you won't think that I meant you to come to a place like this—really, you know."

"I'm sorry; I had hoped you had."

"That's not what I mean. I mean that if I had thought that you were coming, I would have seen that things were different."

"How different? I assure you that things as they are have a charm of their own."

"That's what you say. You don't suppose that I'm so silly as not to know you are laughing at me? But as I was the whole cause of your coming, I hope you won't hate the others because of me."

She marched off, brushing back, with an impatient gesture, some rebellious locks which had strayed upon her forehead.

The Christmas dinner was a success—positively. Of a kind—let that be clearly understood. I am not interring that it was a success from the point of view of a *chef de cuisine*. Not at all; how could it be? Quite the other way. By dint of ransacking all the rooms, and emptying all the scuttles, we collected a certain amount of coal, with which, after adding a fair proportion of wood, we managed. Not brilliantly, but after a fashion. I can only say, personally, I had not enjoyed myself so much for years. I really felt as if I were young again; I am not sure that I am not younger than I thought I was. I must look the matter up. And, after all, even if one be, say, forty, one need not be absolutely an ancient. Madge herself said that I had been like a right hand to her; she did not know what she would have done without me.

Looking back, I cannot but think that if we had attempted to prepare fewer dishes, something might have been properly cooked. It was a mistake to stuff the turkey with sage and onions. But as Bessie did not discover that she had been manipulating the wrong bird until the process of stuffing had been completed, it was felt that it might be just as well to let it rest. Unfortunately, it turned out that some thyme, parsley, mint, and other things had got mixed with the sage, which gave the creature quite a peculiar flavor; but as it came to the table nearly raw, and as tough as hickory, it really did not matter.

My experience of that day teaches me that it is not easy to roast a large goose on a small oil stove. The dropping fat caused the flame to give out a strong smelling and most unpleasant smoke. Rupert, who had charge of the operation, affirmed that it would be all right in the end. But, by the time the thing was served, it was as black as my hat. Rupert said that it was merely brown; but the brown was of a sooty hue, and it reeked of paraffin. We



Return to "Home, Sweet Home."

had to have it deposited in the ash-bin. I daresay that the beef would not have been bad if someone had occasionally turned it, and if the fire would have burned clear. As it was, it was charred on one side and raw on the other, and smoked all over. The way in which the odor and taste of smoke permeated everything was amazing. The plum-pudding came to the table in the form of soup, and the mince pies were nauseous. Something had got into the crust, or mince-meat, or something, which there, at any rate, was out of place.

Luckily, we came upon a tin of corned beef in a cupboard, and with the aid of

some bread and cheese, and other odds and ends, we made a sort of picnic. Incredible though it may seem, I enjoyed it. If there was anywhere a merrier party than we were, I should like to know where it was to be found. It must have been a merry one. When I produced the presents, in which a happy inspiration had urged me to invest, "the enthusiasm reached a climax"—I believe that is the proper form of words which I ought to use. As I watched the pleasure of those youngsters, I felt as if I were myself a boy again.

\* \* \* \* \*

That was my first introduction to "a lively family." They came up to the description they had given of themselves. I speak from knowledge, for they have been my acquaintances now some time. More than acquaintances, friends; the dearest friends I have. At their request, I took their affairs in hand, Madge informally passing her trusteeship on to me. Things are very different with them now. The house is spick and span. There is an excellent staff of servants. Hangar Dene is as comfortable a home as there is in England. I have spent many a happy Christmas under its hospitable roof since then.

The boys are out in the world, after passing with honor through school and college. The girls are going out into the world also. Bessie is actually married. Madge is married, too. She is Mrs. Christopher. That is the part of it all which I find is hardest to understand—to have told myself my whole life long that the name of my ideal woman would be Madge, and to have won that woman for my own at last! That is greater fortune than falls to the lot of most men. I thought that I was beyond that kind of thing; that I was too old. But Madge seemed to think that I was young enough. And she thinks so still.

And now there is a little Madge, who is big enough to play havoc with the sheets of paper on which I have been scribbling, to whom, one day, this tale will have to be told.

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# THOROLD CEMENT



Barn of Archie Crozier, Beachburg, Ont. Size of wall 45 x 120 ft. Wall, Cistern and floor built with Thorold Cement.

The holes showing along the top of the wall are for ventilation.

## Read what Archie Crozier says about Thorold Cement:

ESTATE OF JOHN BATTLE,  
Manufacturers Thorold Cement, Thorold, Ont.

Beachburg, Ont., Aug. 14, 1900.

GENTLEMEN: It is with much pleasure that I testify to the good quality of your Thorold Cement for building purposes. I have just completed a Basement Wall, Cistern and Floor throughout the entire building. Size of wall is 45 x 120 ft. 8 ft. above floor, and a 2-ft. footing. 12-in wall above footing. I also put in door-sills and window-sills of cement. I used 280 bbls. of cement in the whole job. I consider it a cheaper and better job than either brick or stone, and furthermore, I have saved by building with cement, 2,900 cubic ft. of space over and above what I would have had if built with stone. Therefore I give credit to the Cement for \$160 on space. The work was under the direction of your man, Mr. Geo. W. Reid, who understands his work well. I do highly recommend your Thorold Cement to any person intending to build any kind of buildings, for snugness, durability and extra space.

I mail you a photo of our basement wall, and am sure you will be pleased with its appearance, for every person that sees it, either from Western Canada or any other place, says they never saw its equal for appearance, or from an architectural point of view. ARCHIE CROZIER.

Breeder of Shorthorn Cattle, Yorkshire and Berkshire Pigs, and Leicester Sheep.

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FOR FREE PAMPHLET WITH FULL PARTICULARS, ADDRESS—

ESTATE OF **JOHN BATTLE** THOROLD, ONT.

## Their Xmas Turkey.

Edith Curry came into the kitchen, sat down wearily, and said: "I've bad news, mother. What do you think Mr. Brown said? He don't want the turkeys—just think of it! After telling us long ago that he would take half a dozen. I told the carpenter he might depend on us for that money some time in December, because we had a sale for our turkeys. It is just too bad."

"I don't see how he came to change his mind," said Mrs. Curry. "He was so positive about wanting them."

"He got them cheaper from somebody else," said Edith. "It just seems as if everything is against us. Just as we think we are going to be all square something turns up and stops it. Once something happened to the pump; then when we were starting all right a cow died; then we hardly got over that until the roof began to leak, and before this bill is paid something will be sure to happen; in fact, it has come now."

"Well, we must not allow ourselves to become despondent," said her mother. "When things look so dull I try to think of the folks over at the Warwick Farm. They take things in such a cheerful way that it does me good to think about them, and I would like to be just like them."

"It's easy for them to be cheerful," said Edith, "there's such a lot of them, and they have such a comfortable house; Anna and Ella are so pretty, and have such nice-looking clothes. The boys help, too. You see, they have everything to make them happy."

"Indeed, they have not," answered Mrs. Curry, quickly. "Not long ago Mary Warwick told me that she did not want us to feel hard about that quilt we made because they were not able to buy it. She said, 'We don't often talk over our affairs, but you and I are old neighbors, and I don't want you to feel that we would not help you if we could, so I will just tell you that things have been very discouraging this year. We seem to see trouble on every side.' I was afraid we were all falling into discouragement, so I told her we could not afford to get dull; that we must look on the brightest side, and remember our blessings, and we must hope and work for better times. Cheerfulness is a great help."

At the Warwick farm that dreary December morning the family were all assembled in the kitchen. A letter had come from Carrie, their only married child, saying that she, her husband and children were all coming to spend Christmas at home on the farm, and they were all looking to a good time. She did want some of mother's good mince pies and plum pudding.

"I am afraid we cannot have a turkey for Christmas," said John Warwick. "Things are pretty close with us just now, and we have not been raising turkeys for a year or so; but it won't seem like Christmas without a turkey."

"Well, you see, father," said Anna, "Carrie does not know we have not been raising turkeys lately. We never told her."

"Oh, well, she don't think much about the farm now," said her father; "she has her own little family to think of."

"Oh, but she does," said her mother, "I know our dear Carrie thinks of her old home often and will be glad to come even with no turkey in prospect."

"I don't see why we can't keep turkeys," said Frank, "I'm sure I could take care of them."

"We will begin again next year," said their father. "It don't seem natural not to have them on the farm." So saying

he put on his hat, and went to the barn.

"I wish you were a turkey," he said to a large rooster that came and stood near him. "But I will have to think of some way to get one. I see mother is troubled, and Carrie will be disappointed. She has a right to expect a fuss, I know. I have been saving money to get a cap for cold weather, but I will get the turkey and do without the cap! I will go over to Curry's and tell them to save me a nice large turkey."

Mrs. Warwick went to her room, opened a drawer of her bureau, took out her pocketbook, and began to count the money. "I know father is worried about not having a turkey, and I can do without that shawl I was going to get; so I will have Mrs. Curry save me a turkey."

Anna ran upstairs to her room and took out a little box. "I won't count the money, I know there is enough to buy that lace collar; but I will just run over to Curry's and tell them to save me a turkey."

Ella saw Anna going across the fields toward the Curry's. "I wonder what she is going for. I hope she won't stay long, for I have a little plan." She held a little purse in her hand. "No new gloves for me this winter," she said, "but I have some old ones. It's queer how my glove money melts away. The last time I saved, my money went toward buying a parlor carpet, and now my pretty gloves go for a turkey."

Frank and Herbert were standing at the gate talking. "Frank," said Herbert, "let's put our money together and get

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## Weekly Free Press, Winnipeg.

Enclosed find One Dollar for Weekly Free Press to First January, 1902, and Pictures as per offer.



a turkey for Christmas. You were going to get a knife and I was going to get that cravat. We can do without those things, and mother and father would be so glad. What do you say?"

"It's just the very thing," said Frank. "I'll run over to Curry's and tell them to keep one for us; won't the folks be surprised and won't it be fun?"

"Mother," said Edith Curry, that evening, "did you ever hear anything so strange? It seems as if the whole Warwick family has been here to-day, and five of our turkeys are sold! Why, I feel rich."

"So do I," said her mother, "and I think we will keep that other turkey for ourselves; it will cheer your poor father, I know. And don't you see, Edith, it's better not to be cast down when things seem dull."

"I intend never to be dull and gloomy again," said Edith brightly; or, if I am I will just think of turkeys. Now the carpenter can come and get his money; we shall be glad to see him."

Next morning when the people at the Warwick farm were at the breakfast table, a man came to the door. It was their neighbor, Samuel Curry.

"I have brought all the turkeys up to the barn, and if the boys will come along



In their Sunday Best.

Family group of Doukhobors, taken at Yorkton, Assa.

with me I'll show 'em what to do. It's a mighty big lift to get them turkeys all sold, and we thank every one of you. Come along, boys, I am hurrying down to the carpenter's to pay a bill. I won't keep you a minute."

"I don't understand about these turkeys," said the father, anxiously, when the boys were again at the table. "I am afraid we have got ourselves into trouble. I ordered a turkey from the Currys."

"So did I," said his wife.

"So did I," said Anna.

"So did I," said Ella.

"Why, so did we," said the boys.

"But I paid for mine," said the father, gravely.

"So did we," said all the rest. And then the whole Warwick family explained in full.

"Well," said their father, "that is a joke!"

"As for the turkeys, we can have the finest for Christmas, and the rest can start our turkey flock," said the mother.

Carrie, her husband, and their little family came on Christmas.

"Is it not nice, Guy," she would say to her husband again and again. "Don't everybody look lovely, and is it not the nicest old farm in the world?"

"Oh, Guy, where is the bag? I have brought something for each of you. Here, dear father, I will begin with you; I got you this woollen cap. Here, mother, dear, is a nice little shawl for you; and, Anna,

here is a lace collar I brought you; and, Ella, I brought you a pair of gloves; and here, dear old Frank, is a knife; and, Herbert, I brought you a cravat."

"Carrie, my dear child," said her mother, "if you had asked us what we wanted you could not have pleased us more. You were inspired with your beautiful presents."

They never enjoyed a Christmas dinner so much; and said Carrie, "There never was such a good turkey, never such a good pie, never such a happy Christmas."

"We never had so many blessings and so much to be thankful for," they said at the Warwick Farm; and they all said the same at the Curry's.—Maud Russell in National Stockman.

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To Try a Good Thing.

I am fifty-two years old and for forty years of that time I have been a chronic catarrh sufferer, says Mr. James Gieshing, of Alleghany City; with every change of weather my head and throat would be stuffed up with catarrhal mucus.

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I had always been prejudiced against patent medicines, but as everything else had failed I felt justified in at least making a trial.

Our good old family physician, Dr. Ramsdell, laughed at me a little, but said if I was determined to try patent medicines he would advise me to begin with Stuart's Catarrh Tablets because he knew what they contained and he had heard of several remarkable cures resulting from their use, furthermore that they were perfectly safe, containing no cocaine or opiates.

The next day I bought a fifty cent box at a drug store, carried it in my pocket and four or five times a day I would take a tablet; in less than a week I felt a marked improvement which continued until at

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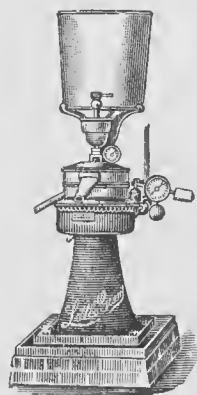
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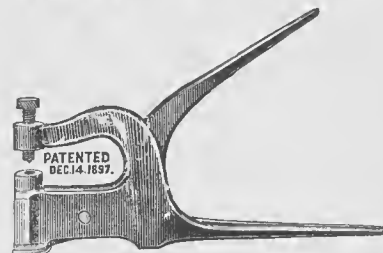
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## Ontario Winter Show.

Started a few years ago in a very small way, the Provincial Winter Show, or as it is better known, the Fat Stock Show, has grown until it is the first show in importance to the stock breeder in Canada. This year a permanent building was erected at Guelph in which to hold the show, which is 310x130 ft., in the form of an L, and two stories high. It was erected by the City of Guelph, assisted by the County of Wellington and the Guelph Fat Stock Club, and has proved a most satisfactory one for show purposes. On the ground floor there are 4,000 square feet of space and it was all used. The dairy cows have a space heated by steam to themselves. There are killing rooms, rooms for storing the dressed carcasses, and lecture rooms with raised seats, so that live animals and carcasses can be taken in and an address given pointing out merits and defects. Up-stairs the poultry hold sway and the exhibit this year was a very large one indeed.

The show in every way was the greatest success yet achieved and far exceeded those of previous years. A large delegation came up from the Maritime Provinces in a special car, while Western Canada was not wanting in representatives. The educational side was the most important feature of the show. People came there to learn and the lectures on live animals and the dressed carcasses were most helpful ones. This fair shows most conclusively that a midway and mountebanks are not needed to make a truly live successful farmers' show.

Two years ago the block test was introduced for the first time, only hogs being killed; last year sheep were added, and this year cattle. There were 62 hogs slaughtered, made up as follows:—12 Yorkshires, 20 Tamworths, 4 Duroc Jerseys, 4 Berkshires, 4 Poland Chinas, 4 Essex, 6 Chester Whites, and 8 grades; 46 sheep: 3 Lincolns, 3 Leicesters, 3 Cotswolds, 3 Suffolks, 5 Dorsets, 6 Shropshires, 5 Oxfords, 7 South-downs, and 12 grades; and 8 cattle:—3 Short-horns, 2 Galloways, 2 Devons and 1 Polled Angus.

The dairy test was an interesting one this year, as the food consumed was taken into consideration. It was taken into account for one week and then the average of this was taken for the two days' test. Some of the breeds, whose owners have asked for food tests, were conspicuous by their absence. The Holsteins were again to the top. Last year Rettle Bros.' cow made a sensational record, this year he had again first and second places. The feeding of the dairy cows was characterised by one party as starvation diet. Last year where the feed was not taken into account the cows were fed all they would eat, this year every feeder had evidently studied out the smallest amount of feed that his cow would consume and give the maximum profit she was capable of doing.

In the fat classes of cattle, Shorthorns again had the lead in numbers and quality. Israel Geff, Alma, had the best pure-bred Shorthorn steer in a yearling; and H. Smith, Hay, the best female, also a yearling. In the grade classes Shorthorn blood predominated and a two-year-old steer of Jas. Leask's, Greenbank, was put first as best animal, and finally as champion animal of the show, any age or breed. Leask also won a special for best pair of fat animals. Herefords were not shown as largely as in other years and evened up the prizes very well with the Polled Angus, the two showing together. F. W. Stone Stock Co. (Herefords), and James Bowman (Polled Angus), were the leading winners. Galloways and Devons were classed together, the former in the hands of Col. McCrae, winning all the firsts in prizes.

Sheep made a very brave show and many of the winners at Chicago were present. The stroughest competition was in the Shropshire, Leicester, Oxford Down and South Down classes. In Shrops Jno. Campbell, Woodville, had the best of it with his Chicago winners, in both the regular class and the specials. In all the above classes the prizes were well distributed among the leading breeders.

The large classes of bacon hogs were a feature of the show and illustrates how the breeders are catering to the demands of the market and following the teachings of the block test at this show. Yorkshires and Tamworths were out in largest numbers, Berkshires coming next. Brethour & Saunders had the lead in Yorkshires, Geo. Green in Berkshires, N. M. Blain in Tamworths, closely followed by Elliott & Son, and A. C. Hallman. The Yorkshires of Brethour & Saunders were to the top for sweepstakes for best bacon hogs. The same breed had second and third places also, Tamworths fourth and fifth.

The presence of the Institute speakers, and the special addresses for their benefit, the meeting of so many breeders' associations and of the Experimental Union at the Agricultural College, made this week the most important in the year. Never was there a chance for a farmer or breeder to see and hear so much that was of great benefit to him as there was at Guelph from Dec. 10 to 14, 1900.

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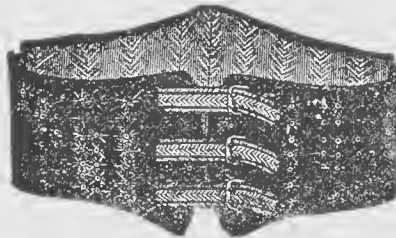
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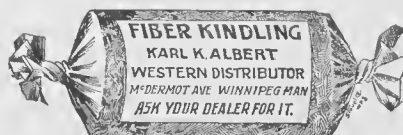
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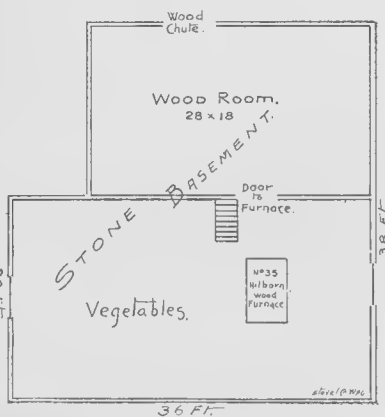
The accompanying illustration is of a comfortable house, built by J. J. Cohoe, of Clear Springs, Man., in 1894. Mr. Cohoe came to Manitoba in 1874 by the Dawson Route and homesteaded the quarter section he now is on. Since then he bought an adjoining one and these, with his wood and hay lots, gives him 610 acres. He has no fears of the winter



Photo by J. A. Hamilton, Winnipeg.

Farm Home of J. J. Cohoe, Clearsprings, Man., 25 miles south-east of Winnipeg.

now, for his new house is warm and comfortable, because, as he thinks, it is properly constructed. It is built in the usual way of studding, but the outside of the studding is covered with tar paper, then tongued and grooved flooring, and on the outside of this another layer of tar paper, and finished with No. 1 white pine siding. On the inside the first thing done was to tack lath over the joints of the first tar paper, to keep it in place. Lath were then put on the studs, and inch strips nailed on over the studs. It was then plastered. Next lath were nailed on the inch strips and the wall plastered and finished in the usual way. A glance at the accompanying plans will show how the house is laid out. A door on the landing connects the back and front stairways, and the hallway runs under both landings to the kitchen. The basement is the full size of the house and the walls are of stone. The portion under the kitchen is used as a storeroom for wood, there being room to store sufficient to last from November until May, both for the cook stove and the furnace by which the house is heated. A door opens from this wood room convenient to the furnace.



Basement

## AMONG THE IMPLEMENT DEALERS.

H. F. Anderson has done a nice trade in sleighs, with the make of a Chatham firm.

Johnston & Stewart have done a nice trade in wagons, manufactured by the Fish Bros. Mfg. Co., Clinton, Iowa.

Gaar, Scott & Co. are pleased with the reception farmers have given their three-way crank grain separator and its numerous complete appliances, as well as their return flue traction engine.

The season for spring cultivation will see here again, and the prudent farmer will be prepared beforehand. The advertisements of T. E. Bissell, Fergus, Ont., which appear on pages 976 and 1026 of this issue, talk about steel rollers and disc harrows, two implements in which many of our readers are interested.

The McLaughlin Carriage Co., who manufacture a full line of cutters and carriages, report a very encouraging fall trade in cutters and sleighs, much better than they looked for. The firm expect to be in their new factory at Oshawa, Ont., early in the year and ready with a full line of up-to-date stylish carriages.

Machinery for unloading hay and grain is bound to be very much in demand in this country in the near future. The catalogue and price list advertised on page 993 by M. T. Buchanan & Co., Ingersoll, Ont., gives particulars which our readers should have in connection with this class of tools.

The portable saw mills manufactured by the Watrous Engine Works Co., Ltd., of Winnipeg are well known throughout Canada for their completeness of equipment and durability of construction. A full line of saw mill machinery of all kinds and sizes—planers, matchers, shingle and lath mills, etc.—as well as hollers and engines, are handled by this firm.

The Balfour Implement Co. are handling the sleighs and wagons made by the Woodstock Wagon and Manufacturing Co., the Ontario Wind Engine Co.'s well known and tested mills and a full line of feed cutters and choppers. This firm represent the J. I. Case Implement Co., of Minneapolis, who make the Model "C" Triumph gang plow.

In this age we harness Nature to accomplish work which has been done for ages by the proverbial "main force and awkwardness." The wind-mill and latest improved pumping machinery are not among the least important of our advances. The advt. of the Gould, Shapley & Muir Co., Brantford, which appears on page 1023, says something about these machines which is worth looking up.

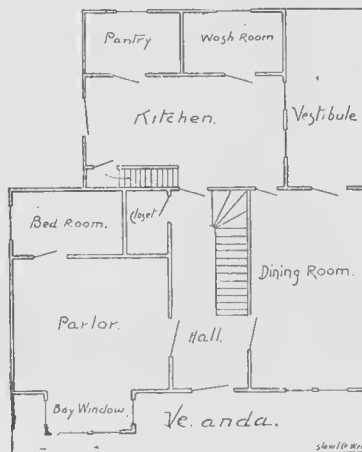
The Frost & Wood Co. are having their show room renovated a little and are getting things in shape for another season's business. Their machines have met with a very satisfactory sale throughout the west during the past year and a much bigger business is looked for next year. Their binders and mowers are well-known for their excellence and their disc harrows for their many superior points.

The oscillating knee of the Stevens Challenge camel back runner sleigh ensures easy draught on any kind of road. The sleigh is strongly built throughout and every part strengthened where a strain comes. The Stevens wagon is built along the same lines, and their Ertel Victor hay press has a very wide reputation for durability and efficiency. Other lines of farm implements made by the Stevens Mfg. Co., as engines and separators, are well known, as are also the celebrated Rock Island plows which they handle.

There has been a heavy run on Challenge and Ideal sleighs, manufactured by the John Watson Mfg. Co. A supplementary order has been exhausted, as well as the supply with which the season was started, and a second one is now about sold. Their flower feed cutter has had a good sale, so have other lines, and grain crushers also. Their 14-inch steel beam, double-shin clipper walking plow has had an excellent run. It is a compromise between a stubble and a sod plow and in the old land of the Red River valley is doing superior work. They will be in great demand next year.

The Fairchild Co. report an excellent fall and early winter trade in the Speight sleighs made by the Speight Wagon Co., of Markham, Ont., and of cutters made by the Canadian Carriage Co., of Brockville.

The McCormick H. M. Co. have got out a handsome new catalogue for 1901, entitled, "The Pride of the Century." Copies of it can be had by dropping a card to the office of the company in Winnipeg.

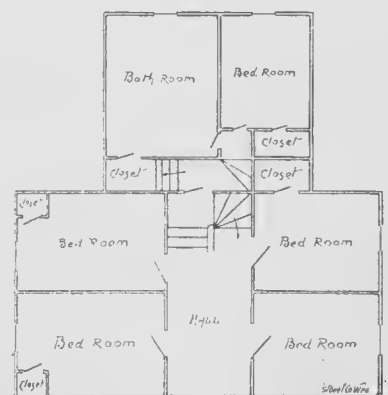


Ground Floor

Joseph Maw & Co. have, as usual, a big display of the latest styles in cutters, pleasure sleighs and more useful ones—in fact, everything wanted in a first-class turnout, either for the city or the farm. They are agents for the Brantford Carriage Co.

The Canadian Moline Plow Co. report a much better sale of sleighs and cutters than they at one time expected. They expect to put all their old lines of plows on the market next year and two new ones which it is expected will meet with special favor.

To those who are looking for quality in the carriage line the half-page advertisement of the J. B. Armstrong Mfg. Co., Guelph, will be of interest. This firm was established a good deal over half a century ago, and their goods have won an enviable place on the markets.



Second Floor

The J. I. Case Threshing Machine Co. report a much larger volume of business than they had expected from the nature of the season, a very large trade being done in the Edmonton country. The amount of tough wheat in the country was very large and thoroughly test every machine, and they are proud to report that the Case did not have a single complaint. Their 25-horse power compound engine is like a quick steamer and as a road machine. The new feeder on the separator has given ever satisfaction and the new half moon knives and the hand cutters were a great advantage in tough grain. It is the intention to put another new style of a feeder, with a different drop, into the cylinder on the market next year. The firm intend to to right up-to-date in their 25-horse power compound engine as given the very best of satisfaction and next year a 25-horse power simple engine and a 30 horse compound will be put on the market. The intention is to use one of their engines for plowing.

Warder, Bushnell & Glessner Co. report the superior qualities of their Champion binder made sales for them this fall where other binders made none. The eccentric wheel driving the knottor applies extra force just when it is wanted in tying the sheaf, the canvas coming right up to the knife gives no chance for grain to accumulate, the force feed elevating canvas ensures the grain being carried to the knottor without any dripping to the ground between the table and canvas—a feature much appreciated this year, and the long shift of the knottor allows a very short, or a very long, sheaf to be tied. The Champion mower possesses features, too, that commend themselves to anyone who examines it. The cutter bar is drawn, not pushed, and the draft is so applied that the heavier the cutting the harder the wheels grip the ground, thereby ensuring the necessary power to do the extra cutting without slipping. The appliance for securing perfect alignment of the cutter bar with the pitman is a novel one and every farmer should see it. The seat being set well back from the axle, relieves all weight on the horses' necks. The Champion machines have the latest modern improvements, please all who inspect them and as the firm intend pushing their machines next year, farmers may have a chance of seeing them.

## Turner & Co's Music House

We make a SPECIALTY of CLASSICS and music of the better grade, having recently increased our stock in these lines. We get our goods direct from

CLASSICS—G. Schiemer, New York.

" B. F. Wood, Boston.

VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL FOLIOS  
White Smith Co., Boston.

VIOLIN & ORCHESTRA—Carl Fischer  
New York.

ANTHEMS & PART SONGS—Novello  
Ewer & Co., New York.

HIGH-GRADE SONGS—John Church  
Co. and Oliver Ditson Co.

And many others.

Full line of Musical Instruments & Xmas Novelties.

Cor. Portage Ave. and Garry St., WINNIPEG.

## SPECIALISTS

This is the day of Specialists, and we are Specialists in repairing. If your watch has not been giving satisfaction, send it to us, and we will guarantee satisfaction. Don't delay as that often means ruin to a watch's delicate organization. We guarantee work for one year, and we will pay charge for carriage one way.

**Andrew H.**

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

McIntyre Block, - WINNIPEG.



**FREE** We give a handsome Watch, with polished nickel case, ornamented edge, hour, minute, and second hands, keyless wind and genuine American movement, for selling only 2 dozen heavily Gold-plated Collar Buttons at 10c each. Write and we forward the Buttons free of all expense. Sell them, return the money, and your Watch will be sent absolutely free of all charges.  
**THE LEVER BUTTON CO.,**  
Box 1103, Toronto, Canada.

The "Dominion" Pianos

60,000  
in USE

An instrument of which

Canada is justly proud

For CATALOGUE ADDRESS

**Dominion Organ & Piano Co.**  
BOWMANVILLE, ONT.

# SEEDS.

Field Seeds	Flower Seeds
Garden Seeds	Tree Seeds
Timothy Seed	Bird Seed
Hungarian Seed	Millet Seed
Blue Grass Seed	Red Top Seed
Clover Seed	Brome Seed
Essex Rape	Buckwheat
Field Peas, all kinds	
Oats, Rye, Barley	
Fodder Corn, all kinds	
Flax, Tares	

In fact we keep in stock everything in the seed line, also all kinds of Seed Drills, Cultivators, Potato Planters, etc. Send for our large descriptive catalogue for the asking.

## THE EUREKA SEED DRILL

A grand, handy little tool. Every farmer should have one. Price only \$1 50. If sent by express buyer pays carriage.

**J. M. PERKINS, MARKET SQUARE, WINNIPEG.**

## BANK OF HAMILTON.

HEAD OFFICE: HAMILTON, ONT.

Capital Authorized, \$2,000,000

Reserve, \$1,234,119

Paid-up Capital, \$1,703,212

Total Assets, \$14,827,357

### BRANCHES IN MANITOBA

WINNIPEG (CORNER MAIN AND McDERMOT STREETS.)

C. BARTLETT, Manager.

BRANDON. CARMAN. HAMIOTA. MANITOUL. MORDEN. PLUM COULEE. WINKLER.

Deposits Received and Interest allowed. General Banking Business transacted. Collections carefully and promptly effected at all points in Canada. Savings' Banks at all Offices



The eighth annual exhibition of the Manitoba Poultry Association will be held in Brandon from Jan. 29th to Feb. 1st. A good prize list is offered, which can be had from the Secretary, D. Sherriff, Box 270, Brandon, Man.

The various associations have decided on the dates for their annual conventions. They will be held, as last year, during the second week of the Winnipeg housepiel. Efforts are being made to get an excellent array of speakers. The following are the dates:—

Feb. 19—Sheep and Swine Breeders' Assoc'n.  
Feb. 20—Pure Bred Cattle Breeders' Assoc'n.  
Feb. 21—Horse Breeders' Association.  
Feb. 22—Manitoba Dairy Association.

One of the prettiest wall hangers we have seen is that issued by the Frost & Wood Co., of Smith's Falls and Winnipeg. In the centre is a returning soldier in khaki greeting an old man on a binder (a Frost & Wood—of course). The title of it is "The Binders of the Empire."

What a convenience is a calendar for the year! In this number our readers will find the annual calendar of the North-West Fire Insurance Co. It is printed in bold type, and will be very convenient, if kept for reference throughout the year, as the different months can all be seen at a glance.

The demand there is for good seed throughout Canada is well exemplified by the increased accommodation necessary to handle the growing business of the Steel-Briggs Co., of Toronto. Their warehouse has been reconstructed and now is a five-story building, 66x100 ft., well equipped throughout, and giving increased facility for handling their ever-growing business.

A new hook on veterinary science, entitled "Veterinary Elements," has just been published by A. G. Hopkins, V.S., of the Wisconsin Agricultural College, where it is being used as a text-book. We have not seen a copy of the book as yet, but feel sure it will be a valuable one for any farmer to have in his library. The retail price will be within the reach of every one, being only \$1.

The Manitoba Cream Separator Co. have had a very successful season with their light running Mikado Cream Separator. Though their season's trade was not as large as at one time expected, yet it far exceeded their best hopes when the crop proved a failure. Several large sales have been reported already for next year, and the intention is to push this hand separator—the best known of the machines made by the U.S. Butter Extractor Co., of Newark, N.J.

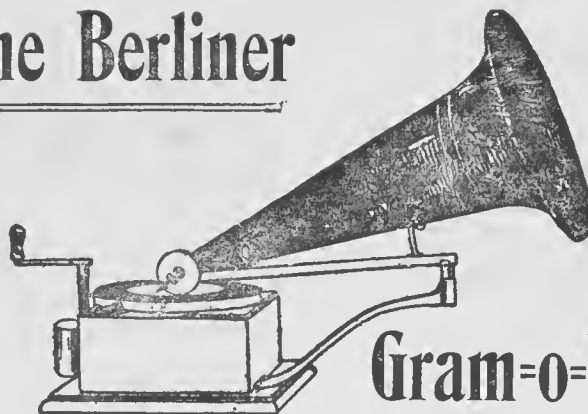
Beginning with the new year the sale of the famous De Laval cream separator in Western Canada, which has been controlled by the Canadian Dairy Supply Co., will be taken over by the head office of the De Laval Separator Co., in New York. This enterprising firm have had an enormous sale of separators in the United States. Wherever the separator is tried it proves itself a close skimmer and fills all its claims as a superior machine. In Western Canada the sales have been most satisfactory and the poor crop has resulted in a largely increased business during the last few months, showing that farmers are turning more and more to dairying. No new improvements so far are announced for 1901, but the separators will be up-to-date in every way.



## GIRLS! FREE!

We give this Dainty Perfume Lamp for selling only 1 doz. packages of Steel Pens at 10 cents per package. Each package contains 18 pens of best English make. They are so cheap that they sell themselves. This beautiful Lamp has nickel base, handsome pleated shade, complete with wick and chimney. The bowl is filled with the choicest of liquid perfume, after using which you fill it with oil and then have a pretty and non-explosive chamber lamp. Write and we mail Pens, sell them, return money, and we send you Lamp carefully packed, all charges paid.  
HOME SUPPLY CO., Box 322, Toronto.

# The Berliner



## Gram-o-Phone

This is the machine that talks—sings—plays every instrument—reproduces Sousa's Band—string orchestras—Negro Minstrels, Church Choirs, etc.

It reproduces the violin, piano, flute, cornet, trombone, banjo, mandolin, piccolo and every other instrument.

The Berliner Gram-o-phone is louder—clearer, simpler and better than any other talking machine at any price. It sings every kind of song, sacred, comic, sentimental, patriotic, "Coon" songs, English, French and Scotch Songs, selections from Grand and Comic Operas, plays cake walks, waltzes, two-steps, marches, in fact everything that can be played on any instrument or number of instruments can be reproduced on the Berliner Gram-o-phone with the wonderful indestructible record discs.

It tells funny stories or repeats a prayer. It can entertain hundreds at one time in the largest hall or church, or it can be subdued to suit the smallest room.

The Records are not wax, they are **Hard, Flat, Indestructible Discs**, which will last 10 years.

The Berliner Gram-o-phone is made in Canada, it is guaranteed for **five years**.

The Gram-o-phone is used and endorsed by the leading clergymen and others throughout Canada.

The Berliner Gram-o-phone received the only medal for Talking Machines at the Toronto Exhibition 1900.

The Berliner Gram-o-phone has been widely imitated and the records counterfeited, therefore beware of machines with misleading names as they are worthless.

If the Berliner Gram-o-phone is not for sale in your town, write to us for illustrated catalogues and other information, free.

FACTORY: 267-371 Aqueduct St., Montreal.

EMANUEL BLOUT, General Manager for Canada.

**E. BERLINER, 2315 St. Catherine Street, . . . MONTREAL.**

FOR SALE AT HUDSON'S BAY STORES, WINNIPEG,  
At slightly increased prices to cover express to Winnipeg.

**Price**  
**\$15.00**  
including  
a 16 inch horn,  
3 records  
and  
concert sound box.

## WORK FOR WINTER

IS OFTEN DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.

*Will Pay*  
**YOU**

IF YOU ARE OUT OF EMPLOYMENT TO WRITE TO THE

**WINNIPEG**  
*Business College*

For ANNUAL ANNOUNCEMENT giving full information about the  
**Business Course, Shorthand and Typewriting and Telegraphic Course.**

A few months spent in this institution costs very little  
more than a winter spent in idleness, and is

**THE VERY BEST**

Preparation a young man or woman can have for a life of usefulness  
and steady work. Full particulars free.

**G. W. DONALD, Secretary.**

A. N. Ham, Sidney, Man., Dec. 19, 1900:—  
"I have taken The Farmer for 2½ years, and  
am well pleased with it. It is just the paper  
for the farmer."

Wm. McFarlane, Oak Lake, Man., Dec. 21,  
1900:—"The Nor'-West Farmer is to the front,  
as heretofore."

# J. I. CASE Threshing Machine Co

Wish our Customers and Friends a

## Merry Christmas

—AND—

## A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR



SEE  
OUR  
PRICES  
FOR  
1901



BUY  
FROM  
US  
AND  
SAVE  
MONEY

OUR WINNIPEG HOUSE.



# 1901



If you require anything for your Engine, write us,

If you want anything in Threshers and Engines,  
save money by investing in a postal card.

## J. I. CASE THRESHING MACHINE COMPANY,

D. B. Macleod, General Agent, Winnipeg, Man.





